



In school, children are taught how to write effective

fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts. They do this throughout the curriculum and learn how to write for the reader and evaluate the overall effectiveness of a text. We have just started a very exciting 2 year project with the English educational writer and poet Pie Corbett where the children will learn how to write through 'talk'.

Tips for helping your child develop a love of writing:

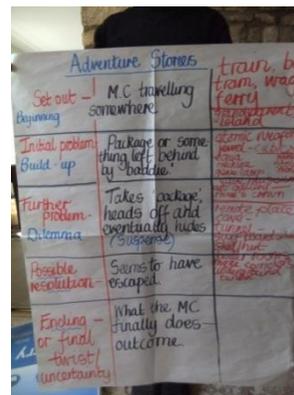
Encourage your child to write for a real purpose. Ask them to write the shopping list for you, use the correct use of capital letters for named brands and explain why. Ask a family member to write a reply to a letter written by your child or get them to send emails to someone you know. At special times of the year, encourage your child to write greeting cards themselves.

Buy your child a 'special' book to use as a diary or a scrapbook. This could be completed each evening before bed, or once a week. To make this more fun, encourage them to include photos and pictures to decorate and make it enjoyable for the 'reader'.



Part of our project teaches the children how to plan in two different ways. The first is 'mapping' out a text using pictures and symbols and the second is by 'boxing up' ideas to help support the structure of a text.

Box up story



Instruction map



Spelling is ~~diffecolt~~ ~~challengeng~~ hard.

Often what stops a child from enjoying writing is spelling and handwriting.

Both of these are essential to aid flow and creativity.

If your child finds handwriting difficult then games which include threading, posting, picking up and transferring small objects from A to B are essential. There are some brilliant, creative activities on the following website:

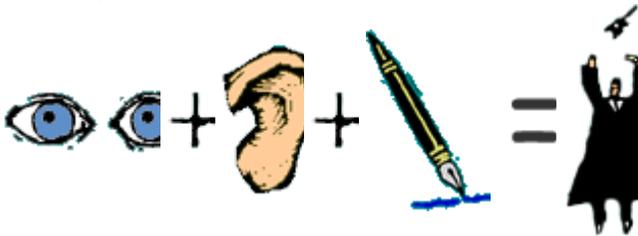
<http://theimaginationtree.com/2013/09/4/O-fine-motor-skills-activities-for-kids.html>

Short daily bursts of practising correct letter formation and correct joins are also helpful. If you would like more information on the style of handwriting taught within school, please contact your child's class teacher who will be able to provide you with supporting materials.



Word study within the school is taken from the government's documents: *Letters and Sounds* or *Support for Spelling*, depending on your child's needs. These spellings are taught within school in a 'hands on' way and the children are encouraged to imitate this in their home word study books. Please help your child learn their spellings in as many different ways as possible. Tips to support this include:

1. When you are practising spellings, **use as many senses as you can:**



2. We are all different and we all make different spelling mistakes. To make your learning personal to you, **start a 'Spelling Log' - your own personal dictionary.**

3. **Dictionaries** can be a **help** - sometimes - if you know how to spell the start of a word! If you need a lot of help with spelling, you might consider getting a specialist dictionary. Some examples include spelling, phonetic and rhyming dictionaries.



4. **Playing word games** with sympathetic friends will help your spelling. There are many games that involve making words from a random selection of letters, for example: Scrabble, Boggle, Word Spin.

Some useful spelling sites include:

<http://www.spellingcity.com/> (registration need but free)

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/literacy/index.htm>

(This site has a range of spelling, reading, grammar and writing games to support all aspects of English)

<http://www.sparkisland.com/index.html>

<http://www.starfall.com/> (this site is good for areas in the subject)

How can you help your child with Writing?

