

Writing with your child

Top Ten Tips for Parents/Guardians



Infants - 1st Class Writing	2nd - 4th Class Writing	5th - 6th Class Writing
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Model writing yourself - shopping lists / letters / cards etc 2. Provide a special place for your child to write/scribble provide a variety of materials - crayons, makers, pencils 3. Display your child's name as often as possible i.e. Sean's Room. 4. Teach your child the letter in his/her own name. 5. Provide alphabet books friezes. 6. Write messages/reminders to your child. 7. Encourage child to write his/her own messages. 8. Praise your child's efforts. 9. Ask child to read their own messages 10. Respond to the messages and not to the grammar and spelling 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Praise your child's efforts - respond to the message and not spelling/handwriting or grammar. 2. Look for opportunities for purposeful writing activities at home writing greeting cards, notes, telephone messages. 3. Encourage your child to use a word processor/computer 4. Provide a quiet writing/ study area for your child well equipped with pencils/paper 5. Encourage your child to keep a diary. 6. Support your child's spelling attempts. 7. Encourage him/her to have a go at spelling difficult words. 8. Use scrapbooks to support the child's hobby/special interests. Presents that support writing. 9. Make sure your child has a dictionary to help with writing. 10. Help your child fill in personal details on forms, etc. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage your child to keep a diary. Respect privacy. 2. Encourage your child to write for real purposes everyday - shopping lists/phone messages etc. 3. Praise the effort and respond to the message and not the handwriting, grammar etc. 4. Make sure that your child has access to a dictionary, thesaurus to help with writing. 5. Allow your child work on a computer. 6. Try crossword puzzles and 'Find the word puzzles'. 7. Provide a range of attractive writing materials - coloured pens, fancy paper. 8. Encourage your child to write greeting cards/thank you notes, etc. 9. Encourage your child to take part in writing competitions/ community projects.. 10. Show your child that value writing by writing yourself.

