

Supporting Writing and Spelling at Home

Why Writing Matters

- Writing helps children express thoughts, build confidence, and succeed at school.
- Early writing starts with drawings, scribbles, and letter shapes.

How Children Learn to Write and Spell

- Children first learn to write by copying letters (especially their name).
- Spelling begins by breaking words into sounds (phonics).
- Practice and support are key to success.

Helping with Spelling at Home

- Break words into sounds: *c-a-t*, *d-o-g*
- Use rhyme: *hat*, *mat*, *cat*
- Try “Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check”
- Use simple games and everyday words

Writing Activities to Try at Home

- Write shopping lists together
- Help write cards, names, and labels
- Let them write messages or draw with captions
- Write together – don’t worry about mistakes

Fun Writing and Spelling Ideas

- Word Hunt: Find items starting with “b” or “s”
- Fridge magnets: Make short words
- Trace letters in sand, rice, or flour
- Make “missing letter” games: d_g (dog), c_t (cat)

Top Tips for Parents

- Keep activities short and fun
- Focus on effort, not perfection
- Use phonics to support spelling
- Encourage and praise often
- Let children see you writing too!

Homework Task

Help your child write a short note, label, or shopping list.

- ✓ Encourage them to use their sounds
- ✓ Bring it next week or take a photo to share!