

JAMES ELLIMAN ACADEMY

Helping at Home: Year 1 - Writing

Writing at home

Make writing fun

Help your child write a letter of the alphabet, then go letter hunting in your house or in a book to find that letter or objects that begin with that letter.

Let your child see you writing – you can use your first language

Encourage them to write shopping lists or make birthday cards

Water and a paintbrush on a dry path are fun ways to write letters and words.

Here's a tip - Don't worry if your child's letters or words are sometimes backwards or misspelt at this age. The important thing is that they have fun writing at home and are making an effort.

Give them reasons to write

Write to each other. Write notes to your child and leave them in interesting places like their lunch box. Ask them to write a reply.

Help them email, text or write to family or friends (always under adult supervision)

Work with them to put labels on special things – like the door to their room or their toy box.

Here a tip – when your child brings things home - display their work. Put it on the fridge. Be proud of it. Share it with others.

Talk about their writing

Talk about the letters in your child's name and where the name comes from. Use a capital letter for the first letter and others must be lower case. Practise writing their name using different media eg paints, foam, flour, sand etc.

Help them create a scrapbook/diary with pictures. Encourage them to write stories under the pictures and talk to you about them.

Ask them to write about pictures they draw - on paper or on the computer. Or get them to tell you the story and you write it under the picture.

Talk about what they did in school today and ask them to show you!

Here's a tip - talk about what your child writes. Be interested. If you don't understand what your child's picture or story is about, ask them to tell you about it. Encourage writing using words or in full sentences....

Have felt pens, pencils, crayons and paper available, maybe set up a writing area for your child.

Put magnetic letters on the fridge – ask what words they can make with the letters.