

# Writing

As children build their speaking and listening confidence they start to learn about writing.

**What can you do?**

1. Read with your child regularly.
2. Talk about the words as you read e.g. rhyming words like: bat and cat and sounds at the beginning of words.
3. Play games—board games, memory games, eye spy.
4. Display letters and drawings your child has created. Then write notes such as: *I love your smiley face drawing!* And read your message to him/her.
5. Encourage your child to help you write notes such as shopping lists and emails.

**Some basics:**

1. Help your child recognise his/her name. Ideas: Try hanging your child's name letters on the bedroom door and look at it and talk about the letters as you walk past for bedtime each evening. Try writing place cards for the dinner table (add little pictures of each of the people in your family) and have your child lay them out (perhaps as they set the table) at each person's place setting.
2. Talk about the first letter of your child's name. Encourage them to find that letter in other places. Help your child write the letters in his/her name.

Most importantly...

**Keep the learning fun!**



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# Getting Your Child Ready for Kindy - English

Activities to do with your  
children to give them the  
best start to their  
schooling!



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# Speaking and Listening

Speaking and listening are the foundations on which writing, spelling and reading are built.

## What can you do?

1. Read aloud with your child regularly.
2. Prepare your child for the day by talking about what is going to be happening.
3. At the end of the day recount what has happened during the day. Ask your child to help by filling in the missing bits. E.g. *Oh. - after that I forget what happened. What happened next?*
4. Sing songs and rhymes together.
5. Play games—board games, memory games, eye spy e.g. *Eye spy with my little eye something starting with the sound rrrrr. It's black and has a white line down the middle of it and... cars drive on it...*
6. Encourage your child to use trial and error to complete new tasks. Be patient as they learn new skills. Use words of encouragement.



# Reading

Reading with your child every day encourages a love of books and reading.

## What can you do?

1. Read aloud with your child everyday.
2. Encourage and praise any attempts at pretend reading.
3. Re-read favourite stories over and over again.
4. Visit the local library.
5. Give your child books as presents.

## When reading with your child:

1. Show your child how the pictures help to tell a story. Talk about the pictures in the book.
2. Occasionally stop and ask: *What do you think will happen next?* **or** *How do you think this person feels?* **and** *What makes you think that?*
3. Turn off the television—it makes it easier to concentrate.
4. Make storytelling fun by making sounds of different animals and changing your voice for different characters.
5. Have your child help turn the pages.
6. At the end of the story talk about what happened and when and where it happened and the characters e.g. *Who was your favourite person in the story?*

