



Hermitage Primary School

Writing in Reception

Writing in the Early Years

Writing is part of Literacy, one of the four specific areas in EYFS.

This comes from both literacy and physical development, focusing on pencil grip and muscle strength.

- *Writing – children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.*
- *Moving and handling – children show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements. They handle equipment and tools effectively, including pencils for writing.*

Writing at the start of a child's school journey can be seen through mark making.



What does writing look like?

1. Scribbling and drawing, grasping the pen/pencil in a fist.
2. Letter like forms and shapes, using shapes and circles in random places, children tell someone what they have 'written'.
3. Writing random letters, using letters from their name, mostly in upper case letters.
4. Letters and spaces, using beginning and end sounds, experimenting with writing sentences.
5. Writing and spelling, using phonics sounds to write longer words, writing for different purposes.

HeidiSongs' Chart of the Developmental Progression of A Child's Writing			
 <p>1. Pictures</p>	 <p>2. Random Scribbling</p>	 <p>3. Scribble Writing <small>(Written in linear fashion to mimic real writing.)</small></p>	 <p>4. Symbols That Represent Letters</p>
 <p>5. Random Letters <small>(No relationship between sounds of letters and what the child is trying to say.)</small></p>	 <p>6. Letter Strings <small>(Progresses from left to right and top to bottom when the child "reads" his writing.)</small></p>	 <p>7. Letter Groups <small>(The groups have spaces in between to resemble words.)</small></p>	 <p>8. Environmental Print <small>(Child copies print found in the room, often without knowing what the words are.)</small></p>
 <p>9. Beginning Sounds <small>(Child begins to write simple sentences using sight words and just the beginning sounds of words.)</small></p>	 <p>10. Early Inventive Spelling <small>(Includes the same elements as the previous level, but with more consonant sounds represented and spaces between words.)</small></p>	 <p>11. Inventive Spelling <small>(Has the same elements as the previous level, but with more sounds per word written, including the vowels. Some conventional spelling patterns may appear.)</small></p>	 <p>12. Transitional Writing <small>(Includes all of the previous elements, plus some real spellings of words with silent letters and other spelling patterns. Punctuation is beginning to appear.)</small></p>

Writing opportunities in school

- Mark making opportunities are available throughout the class.
- Writing opportunities are provided daily throughout every area of the classroom. For example, writing numbers in words, labelling countries, writing lists and letters.
- Structured adult led writing activities – supporting letter formation, writing sounds, using full stops, capital letters and finger spaces.
- Links are made between reading and writing in every phonics lesson.
- Handwriting and letter formation practice
- Writing in different ways – writing in sand, with paint, drawing in different materials, mark making.
- Using whiteboards and pens in areas of the classroom.
- Writing outdoors on whiteboards and with chalk.
- Name writing.
- Fine motor skills to support with hand-eye coordination and developing hand strength.



How can you support writing at home?

- Encourage, praise and support! If your child is attempting to make, write or use their sounds independently this is brilliant!
- You can encourage your child to trace over your letters/words to support with letter formation. They can then copy the words on their own underneath.
- Use the Read, Write Inc. letter rhymes to support with letter formation.
- Please encourage your child to be as independent as possible with their writing – every word does not need to be spelt correctly!
- If they are drawing a picture, challenge them to label or write a sentence about the picture.
- Letter writing, scrapbooks, shopping lists, labelling soft toys, post cards are all really engaging ways to encourage your child to write.



Writing ideas and challenges

Rhymes for letter formation - taken from Read Write Inc.

a 	b 	c 	d 	e 	f 
Around the apple and down the leaf.	Down the laces to the heel and around the toe.	Curl around the caterpillar.	Around the dinosaurs bottom, up his tall neck & down to his toes.	Lift off the top and scoop out the egg.	Down the stem and draw the leaves.
g 	h 	i 	j 	k 	l 
Around the girls face, down her hair and give her a curl.	Down the head, to his hooves and over his back.	Down the body and dot for the head.	Down his body, curl, dot for his head.	Down the kangaroo's body tail and leg.	Down the long leg.
m 	n 	o 	p 	qu 	r 
Down Maisie, mountain, mountain.	Down Nobby and over his net.	All around the orange.	Down the pirates plait and around his face.	Round her head, up past her earring, down her hair, and flick.	Down the robots back and curl over his arm.
s 	t 	u 	v 	w 	x 
Slither down the snake.	Down the tower, across the tower.	Down and under, up to the top and draw the puddle.	Down a wing, up a wing.	Down, up, down, up.	Down the arm and leg, repeat the other side.
y 	z 				
Down a horn, up a horn and under head.	Zig-zag-zig.				

Handwriting Rhymes and Characters

Sound	Rhyme
a	Round the apple and down the leaf (apple)
b	Down the laces to the heel, round the toe (boot)
c	Curl around the caterpillar (caterpillar)
d	Round his bottom, up his tall neck and down to his feet (dinosaur)
e	Lift off the top and scoop out the egg (egg)
f	Down the stem and draw the leaves (flower)
g	Round her face, down her hair and give her a curl (girl)
h	Down the head to the hooves and over his back (horse)
i	Down his bod, and a dot for his head (insect)
j	Down his bod, curl and dot (Jack in the box)
k	Down the kangaroo's bod, tail and leg (kangaroo)
l	Down the long leg (leg)
m	Down Maisie, over the mountain, over the mountain (Maisie and mountains)
n	Down Nobby, over his net (football net)
o	All around the orange (orange)
p	Down his plait and around his head (irate)
q	Round her head, u past her earrings and down her hair (queen)
r	Down his back, then curl over his arm (robot)
s	Slither sown the snake (snake)
t	Down the tower across the tower (castle tower)
u	Down and under, up to the top and draw the puddle (umbrella)
v	Down a wing, u a wing (vulture)
w	Down up, down up (worm)
x	Down the arm and leg and repeat the other side (exercise)
y	Down a horn, up a horn and under his head (yak)
z	Zig - zag - zig (zi)

Bouncy vowels

Bouncy consonants

Stretchy consonants

Writing ideas and challenges

EYFS Writing Birthday Writing Frames

PLWIT TEACHERS

Party Present Wish List

Party Shopping List

Party Time!

s a t i n p m d g c o k
c k e u r h b f f l l s s
j v w x y z z q u c h s h
t h n g a i e e i g h o a o o a r
o r u r o w o i e a r a i r u r e e r



Sight Word Towers



Writing and Drawing Area
Can you write a secret message for another superhero to read?

Writing and Drawing Area
Can you draw a picture of your superhero vehicle? Label it to show all the special things it can do.

Writing and Drawing Area
Can you write a secret message for another superhero to read?

Writing and Drawing Area
Can you draw a picture of your superhero? Label it to show special things it can do.

Writing and Drawing Area
Can you write a secret message for another superhero to read?

Writing and Drawing Area
Can you draw a picture of your superhero? Label it to show special things it can do.

