



Read to Succeed
Parent Tips for Elementary-Age Children

Writing Together

It's easy and fun to encourage your school-age child's writing at home!

- ★ **Model writing.** Your child will notice as you write grocery lists, reminder notes, and calendar entries. Enlist your child's help in these tasks, such as having her write the grocery list.
- ★ **Pass notes.** Create a fun tradition by sending notes back and forth with your child. Choose a special spot in the house to serve as a mailbox, and take turns writing "secret messages" for each other. This is a great opportunity to encourage your child!
- ★ **Journal.** Children appreciate having something that belongs to them. Give your child a notebook and a pencil, and show her how to write about her day. She will get great experience writing about her thoughts and activities.
- ★ **Make writing easy.** Provide a variety of paper and writing tools for your child. If possible, make a computer easily accessible to your child. Encourage your child to write down their own stories, write a note to a celebrity or write a letter to favorite authors. Try to find a space for your child to write that includes a hard surface and good lighting.
- ★ **Family "Wish" Board.** Encourage all family members, including your child, to write down something that they don't want to forget. This can be a place to list wishes, such as ideas for special events or gifts.



Read to Succeed is a Raising Readers in Story County program. www.raising-readers.org