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.