

WRITING AND SPELLING: LEARNING AT HOME

WRITING AND SPELLING IDEAS

Listen

Encourage your child to listen and to talk. A child who is a good speller is often a good talker.

Read together

Read alphabet books, story books and birthday cards with your child. Read and sing nursery rhymes together again and again. Point to words that easily match the pictures such as *cat* and *hat*. Help them recognise rhyming words by getting them to listen to you say them.

Being able to write and spell are processes that take time. Children learn in different ways and at different rates. Be patient and always praise their efforts – it's a big step to get little fingers to control a pencil or crayon.

Write together

Write words together. Help your child trace over letters with their fingers while you say each letter out loud.

Spelling matters

Label your child's things together, for example help them write their name in their books and on toys. This shows that spelling has meaning.

Mirror image

Have your child look in a mirror so they can see how their mouth moves. This can often help if they get certain sounds mixed up such as *f* and *th*.

Rhyming games

Play word games with nonsense words such as *puppy schmuppy*. Play rhyming games where you say the words out loud.



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