

## How to Help at Home with Writing

Writing can be broken down into five key areas:

- Spelling
- Punctuation
- Grammar
- Composition
- Handwriting

Below are the common exception words and statutory spelling words for the different year groups. Please make sure that you practise these at home. It is important that you do not try to learn all the spellings in one go, as there are many words. Instead, you could focus on one word each day.

*Words with capital letters should always be spelt with one, as these are proper nouns.*

### Common Exception Words

#### Year 1







a	I	school
are	Is	she
ask	love	so
be	me	some
by	my	the
come	no	there
do	of	they
friend	once	to
full	one	today
go	our	was
has	pull	we
he	push	were
here	put	where
his	said	you
house	says	your







#### Year 2

after	clothes	half	parents	who
again	cold	hold	pass	whole
any	could	hour	past	wild
bath	door	improve	path	would
beautiful	even	kind	people	
because	every	last	plant	
behind	everybody	many	poor	
both	eye	mind	pretty	
break	fast	money	prove	
busy	father	most	should	
child	find	move	steak	
children	floor	Mr	sugar	
Christmas	gold	Mrs	sure	
class	grass	old	told	
climb	great	only	water	



Where possible you should encourage your children to write at home. Below are some ideas for you to do with your children depending on their year groups.

Year group	What to do	Examples
<b>Early writing</b> <i>(Nursery and Reception)</i>	Encourage children to look for print in their environment.	Road signs, food packets, shop names, bus stops, newspapers, magazines etc.  
	Get them to complete activities to develop fine motor skills.  For more ideas, please visit the link below. <a href="https://theimaginationtree.com/40-fine-motor-skills-activities-for-kids/">https://theimaginationtree.com/40-fine-motor-skills-activities-for-kids/</a>  Recipe to make your own playdough. <a href="https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/playdough-recipe">https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/playdough-recipe</a>	Cutting, using playdough, using tweezers, clothes pegs, tracing   
	Use a chalkboard to write family messages on.	
	Make labels for things around the house	

	Write a shopping list (real or imaginary)	
	Practise forming letters in different materials.	For example: Using paint, sand, playdough etc... 
	Let your child write their own Christmas cards or birthday cards to people.	
	Use magnetic letters on the fridge, radiator etc... so that children can leave messages.	
<b>Improving writing</b> (Year 1, 2 & 3)	Write party invitations	 

**Improving writing**  
(Year 1, 2 & 3)

Encourage children to write thank you letters after birthday parties or for people who have helped them.



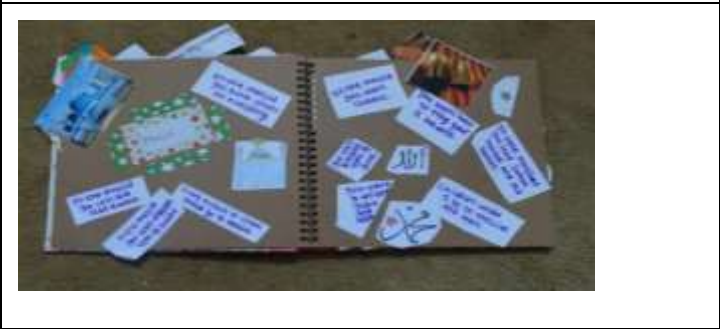
Write postcards when on holiday






Write a menu for a family meal or party

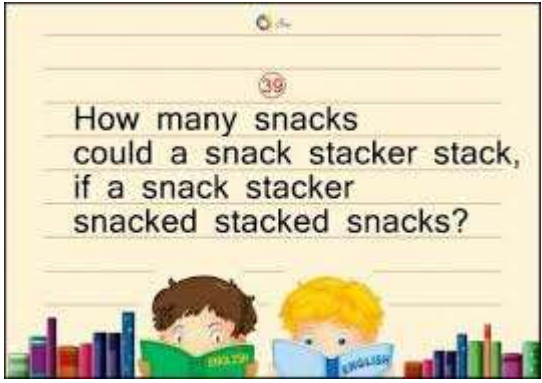






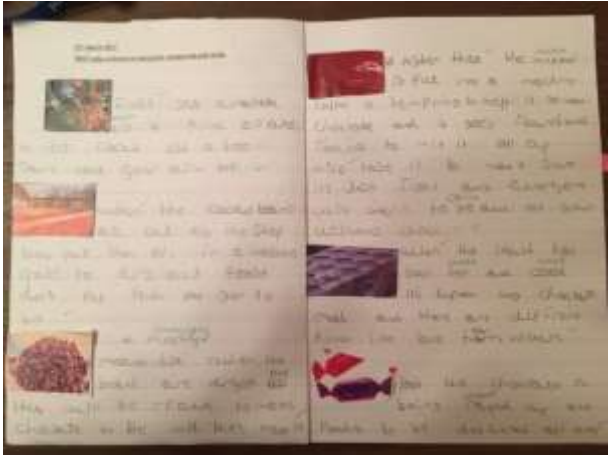

Make a scrapbook with labels and captions – maybe after a holiday or special event.



<p><b>Improving writing</b> (Year 1, 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<p>Write short stories involving the adventures of their favourite toys.</p>	
	<p>Write an information leaflet about something they find interesting e.g. dinosaurs, sports etc.</p>	
	<p>Write a letter to a friend</p>	
	<p>Invent and write rules for the house, bedroom etc. and put on a poster.</p>	
	<p>Draw, label and explain their own inventions.</p>	



<p><b>Improving writing</b> (Year 1, 2 &amp; 3)</p>	<p>Make up silly sentences and tongue twisters.</p>	
	<p>Produce their own comic (<a href="https://www.storyboardthat.com/storyboard-creator">https://www.storyboardthat.com/storyboard-creator</a>)</p>	
	<p>Entering writing competitions (<a href="https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/">https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/</a>)</p>	
	<p>Write their own story books <a href="https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/websites-where-kids-can-create-books.html">https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/websites-where-kids-can-create-books.html</a></p> <p><i>*Please note that not all the websites on this link are free.</i></p>	

<p><b>More Confident Writers</b> (Year 4, 5 &amp; 6)</p>	<p>Write a diary</p>	
	<p>Make up song lyrics</p>	
	<p>Plan their own party</p>	
	<p>Write a story for a younger family member, in the style of their favourite book.</p>	
	<p>Write instructions for an X-box game, Minecraft or similar.</p>	
<p>Write a holiday diary. Produce their own comic (<a href="https://www.storyboardthat.com/storyboard-creator">https://www.storyboardthat.com/storyboard-creator</a>) Write to a charity, the Queen, a member of parliament about things they feel strongly about e.g. use of plastic, animal welfare etc.</p>		



**More Confident Writers**  
(Year 4, 5 & 6)

Write a recipe

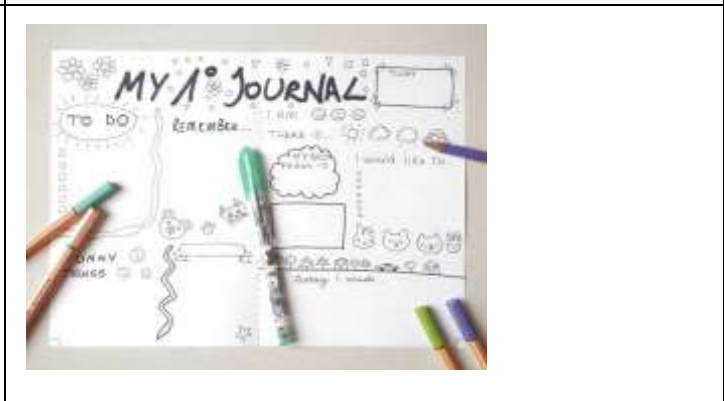
Email a family member or friend



**Top Tips for writing**

1. Begin your email 'Dear' + name.
2. Begin your email with thanks or the reason you are writing.
3. This paragraph has got one idea.
4. This paragraph has got another idea.
5. End your email 'While soon' + your name.



Write and create their own bullet journal



Write an information leaflet about something they find interesting e.g. dinosaurs, sports etc.



Protein Foods	Grains	The Five Food Groups	
Examples: 1. Chicken 2. Fish 3. Eggs 4. Beans 5. Tofu	Examples: 1. Bread 2. Pasta 3. Rice 4. Cereals 5. Noodles	Fruits	Vegetables
Nutrients: 1. Protein 2. Iron 3. Calcium 4. Vitamin C	Nutrients: 1. Carbohydrate 2. Fiber 3. Vitamin A 4. Vitamin C	Examples: 1. Apple 2. Banana 3. Orange 4. Strawberry	Examples: 1. Broccoli 2. Carrot 3. Spinach 4. Potato
Health Benefits: 1. Healthy blood pressure 2. Help you sleep 3. Healthy heart 4. Stronger muscles	Health Benefits: 1. Healthy blood pressure 2. Help you sleep 3. Healthy eyes and skin 4. More energy	Health Benefits: 1. Healthy blood pressure 2. Healthy blood pressure 3. Healthy blood pressure	Health Benefits: 1. Healthy blood pressure 2. Healthy blood pressure 3. Healthy blood pressure

<p><b>More Confident Writers</b> (Year 4, 5 &amp; 6)</p>	<p>Entering writing competitions (<a href="https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/">https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/</a>)</p>	
	<p>Write their own story books <a href="https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/websites-where-kids-can-create-books.html">https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/websites-where-kids-can-create-books.html</a></p> <p><i>*Please note that not all the websites on this link are free.</i></p>	

It is also an incentive to write if there is a range of exciting writing materials available – pencils, crayons, felt tips, sparkly pens, writing icings, coloured papers, different shape and sizes of paper etc. Most of these things are available quite cheaply these days in places like Poundland.

Remember to make the writing process fun. It should be something the children enjoy doing. The website below has a list of writing apps and websites for children to get them writing. **Please look carefully at the age recommendations of each app/website before letting your children use them.**

<https://www.readbrihtly.com/13-excellent-writing-apps-websites-kids/>

