

## Ideas for making writing fun at home

Although we are sending home the learning pack each week containing some more structured tasks, we are aware that the learning environment at home is very different and the children may not be as willing to participate in some of the activities as they are at school. There is no expectation that the children are sitting down and writing each day as these are very difficult times and we really appreciate what you are doing and understand that you need to fit things into your daily life and some of you also have the added struggle of managing working from home and looking after siblings.

We have compiled a list of ideas that you may like to try with your child to engage them with writing without them sitting down each day and hopefully making it more fun for both of you.

- One of the first tips is to try to follow your child's interests. If they love dinosaurs/ cars/ dolls etc create a story using these toys. As they tell the story, encourage the use of expressive language and thinking of character names and events. Being able to verbalise a story is just as important as writing it down. Give them lots of praise and encouragement and they may like to create their own book telling their story (easily done by folding some paper).
- Stick some sheets of paper under the table or up on the wall. What can they draw/ write?
- Make signs - If you have planted seeds can your child label what the plants are? Can they label different parts of the house/ garden/ bedroom/ bathroom etc. Can they make a sign telling people how to wash their hands and put it in the bathroom?
- Create a secret message - Use a white wax crayon or candle and ask them to write a message - Paint over the message to read what it says.
- Create an indoor or outdoor obstacle course. Draw a map or write instructions telling someone how to do it.
- Make a potion - ask your child to write down the ingredients they have used to help someone else make it. What does the potion do?
- Ask your child to help write your shopping list.
- You could go on a bug hunt and write down what you find.
- Can they create a treasure hunt for you to follow, writing down where they want you to look?
- Write a letter or postcard to a friend/ teacher or relative.

These are all suggestions to help and there is no expectation they are completed, we want you to do what works for your family.

**You are all doing an amazing job in these difficult circumstances!**

