



This week's theme is Print Development, Writing, & Alphabet

Early Learning Standard 3.6: Children develop interest and skills in using symbols as a meaningful form of communication.

1. Write letters, letter-like shapes, and inventive words.

Parents can: Provide vertical wall spaces covered with large paper for children to draw and write. If possible, set up a drawing and writing desk with paper and crayons, markers, and pencils.



2. Use print in dramatic play.

Parents can: Provide writing supplies for kids to use in dramatic play, such as taking restaurant orders, writing checks, and making signs.

3. Demonstrate an understanding that print holds meaning and thoughts can be written down.

Parents can: Ask child if he would like you to write a story or words about his drawing. Use his words to read it back to him. Be ready to take dictation whenever your child is eager to tell a story.



4. Form letters to approximate the alphabet.

Parents can: Provide opportunities for children to copy alphabet letters in various ways, with writing, playdoh, tracing letters on your back, and other play environments.

5. Write his or her own name.

Parents can: Encourage child to put their name on their drawings, make signs for their door, write their own nametags, and sign their own thank-you notes.

6. Write familiar words.

Parents can: Encourage kids to copy familiar or favorite words on cards, and write for a variety of purposes, such as signs for their block constructions or writing a note.

7. Identify letters of the alphabet.

Parents can: Provide opportunities for child to see name in print and to talk about the letters in his or her name. In addition to singing the Alphabet song, point out the letters at random so child learns them out of order.

8. Match letters and their sound.

Parents can: Play games that allow child to match letters with their sounds, beginning with his or her name. "Sam starts with the letter S and it makes the sound ssssssss." Find other words that start with the "sssss" sound.

For more tips, send "SIGNUP" to 406-204-3583 or ask a children's librarian.

TRY IT!

This is a good place to write your child's name and ask him/her to copy
some of the letters:

