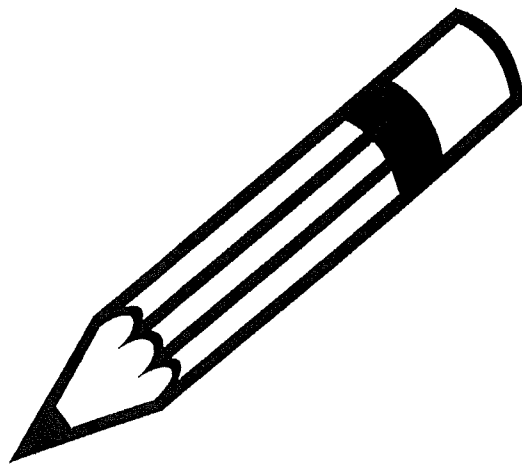


# SECTION

# E

Pre-Writing and Writing



*Children who read the most, read the best! And children who  
read the most, write the best!*

*-excerpt from "On Becoming a Nation of Readers"*

### **Goals for Primary Writers**

- To experience joy in writing
- To love the sound of words
- To want to write often
- To create for others and for yourself
- To become an audience for the writing of others
- To love literature and to love being a listener, who hears voice, form word pictures, chooses favorite words, and thinks about writing
- To discover favorite books or authors
- To try writing in many forms: pictures, dictation, storyboarding, text
- To write for more than one audience
- To look inside the writing around you, borrowing freely and without inhibition to enrich and expand the power of your own text

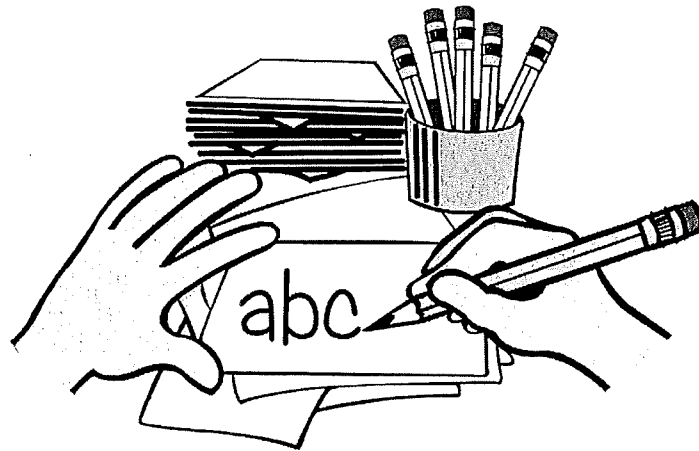
### **Goals for Primary Teachers**

- To celebrate students' love of writing
- To see in students' writing not what is missing but what is there
- To teach ourselves to identify moments of voice, details, expressiveness
- To share what we see with students in order to help them identify and build on their strengths
- To focus first on the writer, not on the writing
- To control the anxiety that urges us toward too much perfection too soon
- To see exploration as an important achievement in itself
- To help students understand that writing is first and foremost ideas and intent, and those conventions only exist to serve these larger purposes
- To give students the language they need to think like writers
- To share with expression, with passion, with voice, and with heart the books and other literature we love
- To write ourselves and to share with students the stories of our writing

## What does writing look like for K-1 students?

Remember, it is a developmental skill that takes time.

1. Drawings with dictated stories- ask your student about their drawing, and write down exactly what they say.
2. Pictures with scribbles
3. Letters written here and there
4. Shared writing- As the teacher, you write most of their story, and your student writes some letters or words that they know.
5. Inventive/Estimated (guessed) spelling- writes alone by sounding out the words.
6. Lists
7. Journaling
8. Letters
9. Make a variety of their own "books"
10. Label items around your home



Another great idea for practicing writing is to write lists. Using items they are familiar with, have your child create a list of at least ten words. Here are some list ideas:

1. Grocery list for the weekly shopping
2. Things in their bedroom
3. Names of their friends
4. Chores
5. Colors
6. Farm animals
7. My favorite things
8. Games I like to play
9. Happy words
10. Names of my family members
11. Animals in the ocean
12. Types of pets
13. Wild animals
14. Toys in my house

On the next page you will find some practice list forms, or use a small journal for your child to write their lists in. Have fun making lists!

## My List

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

## My List

1.	11.
2.	12.
3.	13.
4.	14.
5.	15.
6.	16.
7.	17.
8.	18.
9.	19.
10.	20.

## Sentence Frames, Word Banks and Other Writing Ideas

Sentence frames are a great resource for:

- Parent directing the sentence they want their child to practice
- Practicing content vocabulary using word banks for your child to write from
- Increasing language proficiency
- Can be used across subjects
- Are a great way to make connections to a story
- Can also be used to explain their thinking in response to a story
- Great for practicing number sentences

### Examples

Parent Writes: I like my \_\_\_\_\_.

Student Writes: I like my bike.

Use a **Word Bank** with a collection of words to help your child write their sentence.

tuna	whale	sea star	water	salt
waves	sand	seaweed	otters	current

Parent Writes: A \_\_\_\_\_ lives in the ocean.

Student Writes: A whale lives in the ocean.

Other examples: I can \_\_\_\_\_.

I have \_\_\_\_\_.

He is on his \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ is big but \_\_\_\_\_ is little.

**Science**

My animal is a \_\_\_\_\_. It has \_\_\_\_\_.

Today's weather is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Social Studies**

The country I live in is \_\_\_\_\_.

The state I live in is \_\_\_\_\_.

My favorite holiday is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Math**

The tree has \_\_\_\_\_ apples hanging from it.

**Or choose your child's favorite story and remake it using sentence frames:**

**Brown Bear, Brown Bear by *Eric Carle***

Brown bear, brown bear, what do you \_\_\_\_\_?

I \_\_\_\_\_ a purple horse looking at me.

**Baby Beluga by *Raffi***

*Baby Beluga in the deep blue sea.*

Baby \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_.

*We like to hear you.*

\_\_\_\_\_ like to \_\_\_\_\_ you.