



WRITING AND SPELLING: LEARNING AT HOME

WRITING AND SPELLING ARE IMPORTANT!

Speaking and listening are the foundations on which writing, spelling and reading are built. In Pre-primary, your child continues their learning journey and, as they build their confidence, they start to become more familiar with words and writing.

What can I do?

- Read with your child regularly. Explore words and books together and involve them when you are writing.
- As you read together, talk about the words you read. For example, rhyming words like: *bat* and *cat*, and talk about the sounds made at the beginning of words. When your child is comfortable, talk about the sounds made at the end of words.
- Encourage your child to help you write notes, emails and shopping lists. Set out paper and pencils so they can try writing with you.
- Play word games together such as simple word searches.

A child with disability usually benefits from and enjoys the close interaction and stimulation provided when they are read their favourite stories or are sung a nursery rhyme. If your child has a disability, their school supports them as they participate in activities at a level suitable to their ability. Talk with your child's teacher about appropriate tools, equipment and ideas to support you and your child.

If your child speaks another language or dialect, they need time to hear the sounds of the English language. It may take up to two years or longer for them to hear and say all these sounds.

- Display letters and drawings your child has created. Write them notes such as: *I'm very proud of you!*
- Use magnetic alphabet letters on the fridge or a magnetic board. Help your child make words.
- Search for words at home, when you are out and about, as you take a walk and when you are travelling such as on signs and in shops.
- Set up a home message board and write messages to your child. Encourage them to leave messages for you and other family members.
- Make good use of junk mail! Ask your child to:
 - circle words with a certain letter such as *m* and a certain sound such as *sh*
 - underline all the two letter words, three letter words and so on
 - count how many times they can find a certain word such as *the* – this helps them recognise common words.

Turn off the television. It's easier for your child to concentrate when there are no distractions.

**You'll find more
learning at home factsheets
at education.wa.edu.au.**