

Your child will be able to do many of the following

- Recognise some letter and the sounds they make.
- Write familiar words such as their name, mum, dad, cat etc.
- Give meaning to the marks they make.
- Form some recognisable letters in their writing.



How can you help your child make progress?

- Write together, make shopping lists, labels etc.
- Ask them to point to letters they recognise.
- Point out letters in the world, for example, road signs, shop names, building names.
- Ask them what letter sounds they can hear at the beginning, middle or end of simple 3 letter words.
- Use chalks, paints and pencils to form letters



St Mary's

Church of England Aided Primary School



Help your child with Writing



How to help with early writing

Parents and teachers are essential partners in a preschool child's development of reading, writing and language skills. Family members can do the following activities at home to encourage pre-school literacy. Be a model for your child.

Children learn that reading and writing are important when they see adults using these skills!

Spending time in conversations with your child to develop vocabulary and knowledge of the world. Label what you see and explain how things work.

Playing with language to help your child listen to rhymes and letter sounds. Read nursery rhymes and other rhyming books. See how many rhyming words you can think of together: hop, top, bop, mop, lop, stop, drop and flop. Use words that start with the same letter (alliteration) and help your child to hear the letter sounds—eg: Big Bob bounced a ball.

Teaching your child about letters and words. Notice words and letters in the world around you. Read Cereal boxes and favourite snacks. Point out the letters in your child's name that you see in signs and advertising around town.

Using your child's first language when you talk, read, write, play and sing. This will create a strong sense of self confidence and support your child's roots, in addition to building a solid foundation of basic language concepts. Remember that you are the first and most important educator in your child's life.

Reading aloud with your child everyday. Talk about the stories you read to make them more meaningful to you child. Children will learn about books and print, for example: we read the words, rather than the pictures, from left to right and from the front of a book to the back.

Encouraging your child to draw and write by allowing access to pencils, crayons, markers, chalk and a variety of paper. Activities to develop the muscle strength needed to be able to write successfully include: playing with play dough, tearing and crumpling paper, scooping and pouring, using Lego blocks, sticking stickers and using tweezers. Help your child send a letter or write an important list. Practise writing your child's first name with them. Use lots of praise and encouragement!!

