



English Language Arts

Draws pictures, letters and numbers



Most young children enjoy the process of writing. Early writing is a strong predictor of a child's reading success in later years. It is a foundational literacy skill that develops understanding of print concepts, alphabet knowledge, and sounds in language. Drawing is how a child writes in the early years. Drawing pictures and copying letters and numbers leads to children using writing for a variety of purposes.*

ACTIVITY IDEAS

Explain the Drawing

Ask your child to explain her drawing while you write down her words.

Sign Your Work

Invite your child to sign (and later label) his work, which may include scribbles or initials.

What Do You See?

Give your child a clipboard or a sturdy book. Walk around the house and have him "write" letters and numbers that he sees. In the beginning, the letters may be scribbles, or written backwards or sideways. This is a great start to copying letters and numbers.

Family Portrait

Have your child draw a family picture. Write the name of each family member on the picture, then encourage your child to copy the name.

Grocery List

Have your child write a grocery list before going to the store. She may scribble or ask you which letter comes next.

May I Take Your Order?

Play restaurant in your kitchen and have your child take your order on a notepad.

Create a Sign

Give your child a card on which his name is written. Ask him to practice writing his name by copying from the card. He can create a name sign for his bedroom, toy box, or bathroom.

* Gerde, H. K., Bingham, G. E. & Wasik, B. A. (2012). Writing in early childhood classrooms: Guidance for best practice. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 40(6), 351–359.