

VOOKS



CLASSROOM RESOURCES

Daily Writing Routines

Printable, standard aligned unit to assist teachers and students in the classroom.

Created by Vooks' team of reading education experts

Building Writing Routines

Many teachers find teaching writing difficult, maybe because it can be personal, maybe because many of us find it difficult to grade. But we all realize how important it is. The best way to begin is to develop daily writing routines. Early writing experiences provides children with an important strategy for self-expression and supports reading and writing development. Children need continuous practice in writing by being given opportunities to experiment and apply their developing skills and knowledge. During writing experiences, it is the teacher's role to share in the enjoyment of writing as well as scaffold children's engagement to develop literacy skills. For beginning writers it is important to remember that scaffolding and differentiating should be fluid, dynamic, and continuous—not fixed or separate. Learning experiences should be responsive, intentional, and meet the individual needs of each child.

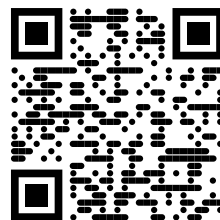
Start the year off right by setting up the routines that will guarantee their success as writers in your classroom. The teachers with the best run classrooms spend most of the first two weeks teaching routines and procedures. Do it first and you won't have to do it ALL year long. Hopefully you will find this unit helpful as you develop the writing routines for your classroom.



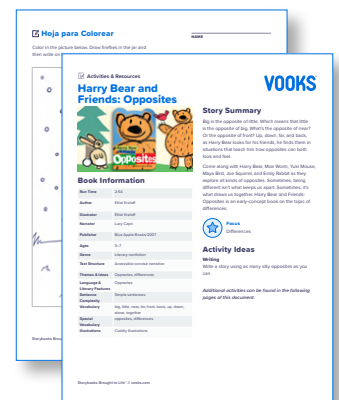
Patricia Duncan
Vooks Education Director

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For more printable activities and resources head to vooks.com/resources



Writing Focused Vooks Titles

All of our titles have a Drawing and Writing activity.

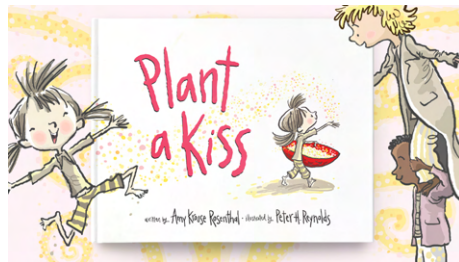
View the titles and use the resources found at vooks.com/resources.



The Day Punctuation Came to Town

A new family has moved to Alphabet City—the Punctuations! It's the first day at a new school for Exclamation Point, Question Mark, Period, and Comma.

6m 56s



Plant a Kiss

When a kiss grows into something dazzling, Little Miss wants to share it with the world!

4m 52s



Alphatrain

All aboard the Alphatrain! There are beautifully illustrated animals for every letter of the alphabet.

6m 15s



Donuts: The Hole Story

A very funny story about the adventures of donuts. The story is told using many donut puns.

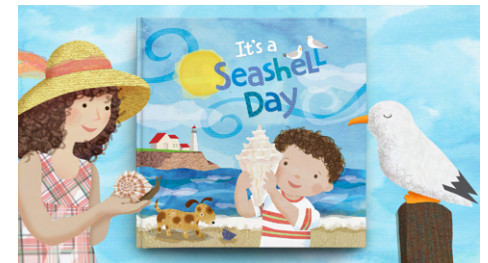
6m 56s



Allegro

Classical music comes to life as Allegro travels on a magical journey through 11 timeless compositions.

5m 40s



It's a Seashell Day

A boy and his mother go down to the beach to explore and collect shells. Children learn about seashells and enjoy counting the variety of seashells.

7m 16s

Pre-Assessment

Pre-assessment is a way to determine what children know about a topic before you teach it. Pre-assessments should be used regularly:

- To make instructional decisions about student strengths and needs.
- To determine flexible grouping patterns.
- To determine which students are ready for advance instruction.

Goal	Create authentic, and engaging writing experiences for children, while embedding important learning for literacy development.
Standards	<p>K-2: Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose writing—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to tell a reader the topic or the name of the book they are writing about and state an opinion or preference about the topic or book;• to name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic;• to narrate a single event or linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened. <p>K-2: Respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed.</p> <p>K-2: Participate in shared research and writing projects.</p> <p>K-2: Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.</p> <p>K-2: Engage strategies to clarify word meaning.</p>

Getting Started

It is important to provide children with writing opportunities:

- Writing activities support critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- Writing is important for vocabulary and reading development.
- Writing activities build confidence.
- Writing helps children connect to the world around them.

Activity Examples

Writing skills are important for elementary students' continued learning, communication, and self expression in all academic areas. We have created Drawing and Writing activities for the pre-assessment to determine children's proficiency level. Watch the Vooks title and distribute the Drawing and Writing appropriate activity to each child.

Beginning

Colors on the Farm

Developing

But First, We Nap

Experienced

Donuts: The Hole Story

“Assessment is today’s means of modifying tomorrow’s instruction.”

—Carole Tomlinson

Drawing and Writing

Draw and color your favorite animal and then, finish the sentences below.

Goes with
*Colors on
the Farm.*



A large, empty rectangular box provided for drawing and coloring a favorite animal.

My favorite animal is _____.

The color of the animal is _____.

Drawing and Writing

Goes with
*But First,
We Nap.*



Verbs are words that describe something you do. In the story, two of the verbs used were, Rabbit wants to **play** and Sloth wants to **nap**. It's your turn to add your own verbs and change the sentence.

Brainstorm different verbs like play and nap and then fill in the blanks below to change the story.

*Example: Let's **play**! Ok, but first we **nap**.*

Let's _____ ! Ok, but first, we _____ .
verb verb

Now draw a picture showing Rabbit and Sloth, or yourself and a friend doing what your new sentence says.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to draw a picture illustrating their new sentence.

Drawing and Writing

Draw and decorate a donut. Write a story about an adventure the donut had.

Goes with
*Donuts: The
Hole Story.*



Build a Daily Writing Routine

Writing should be scheduled and routines practiced daily. Consistent instruction and time to practice are crucial for children to develop writing skills.

Objectives

Goal	Engage children in authentic writing experiences with embedded learning for literacy development.
Standards	<p>K-2: Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to tell a reader the topic or the name of the book they are writing about and state an opinion or preference about the topic or book;• to name what they are writing about and supply some information about the topic;• to narrate a single event or linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened. <p>K-2: Respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed.</p> <p>K-2: Participate in shared research and writing projects.</p> <p>K-2: Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.</p>

Getting Started

Choose a writing routine which meets the needs of your students, we have provided example activities below.

Writing Activities

Build-a-Story

Have each child begin a story on a blank piece of paper. Then pass out another piece of blank paper to them as they write. After five minutes have them stop and cover everything they've written except the last two lines, then pass their story to the right. The next person will read those two lines and continue the story. And so on and so forth. When you are almost out of time, invite the final person to bring the story to some kind of an end, then pass the papers back to their original owners. Everyone will laugh over the crazy twists and turns of their story. You can let them share the stories with partners or call on a few volunteers to read their entire story out loud.

Build-a-Story Verbally

Start a story as a class. Then each child will take a turn rolling dice. They have to add to the story by writing a sentence using the number of words they rolled.

Example: A 5 is rolled, write a sentence using 5 words.

Create a Foldable Mini Book

Using the guide on the following pages create a mini book. Then write and illustrate your own story.

Class Word Wall

A word wall is a collection of words displayed in large visible letters on a wall, bulletin board, or other display surface in a classroom visible to all children.

Transition Activities

Writing focused activities to keep students engaged as you flow between planned lessons.

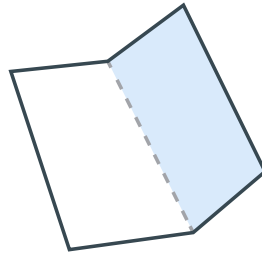
Foldable Mini Book

Materials needed

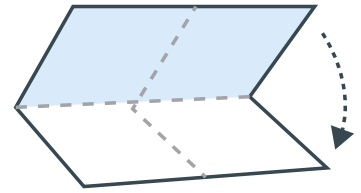
- Scissors
- Paper

Directions

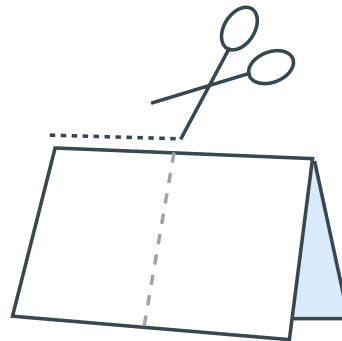
1. Fold the piece of paper in half lengthwise (hotdog).
2. Unfold and fold in half widthwise (hamburger).
3. With the paper folded hamburger style and the open side facing down, cut the top fold from one edge to the middle crease.
4. From the cut, fold the front flap towards the front and the back flap to the back.
5. You now have a book with four pages to write your own story.



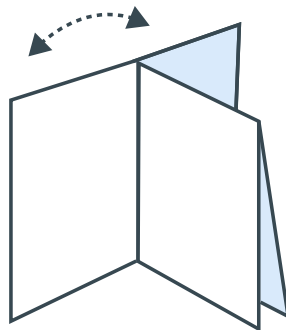
Step 1



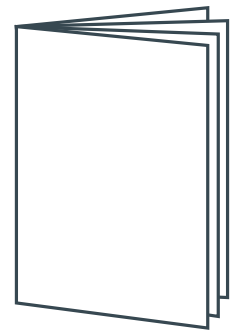
Step 2



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5

Class Word Wall

A word wall is a collection of words displayed in large visible letters on a wall, bulletin board, or other display surface in a classroom visible to all children. The word wall can be used during writing and reading.

- They help students see patterns and relationship in words, thus building phonics and spelling skills.
- They provide reference support for children during reading and writing activities by making words accessible by putting them where every student can see them.
- Teachers and students can determine which words should go on the word wall. Include words that children use most commonly in their writing. Words should be added gradually — a general guideline is five words per week.
- Use the word wall daily to practice words, incorporating a variety of activities such as chanting, snapping, cheering, clapping, tracing, word guessing games as well as writing them.

Our Word Wall

Ab



Bb



Cc



Apple

Boat

Cat

Air

Ball

Car

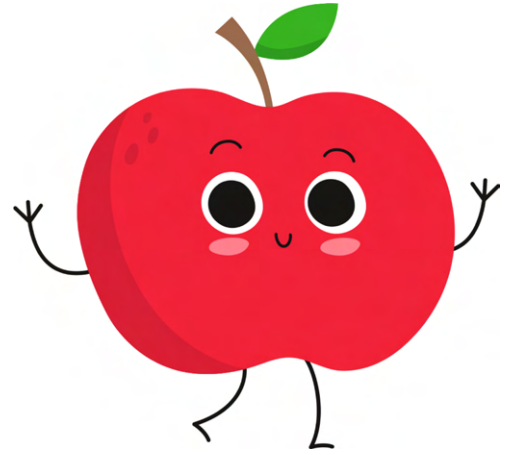
Bird

Coal

Make a Word Wall

Add words that you want to use in your writing for easy reference.

Aa



Bb



Make a Word Wall

Cc



Dd



Make a Word Wall

Ee

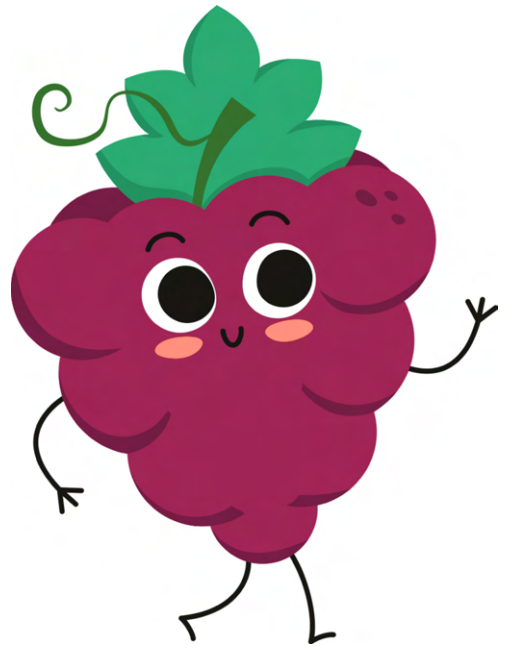


Ff



Make a Word Wall

Gg



Hh



Make a Word Wall

ii



Jj

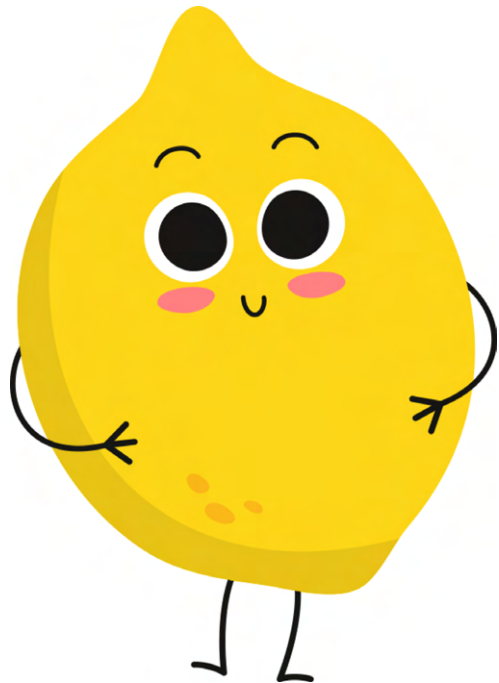


Make a Word Wall

Kk

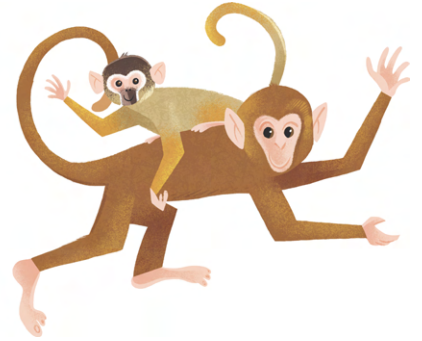


Ll



Make a Word Wall

Mm



Nn



Make a Word Wall

O o

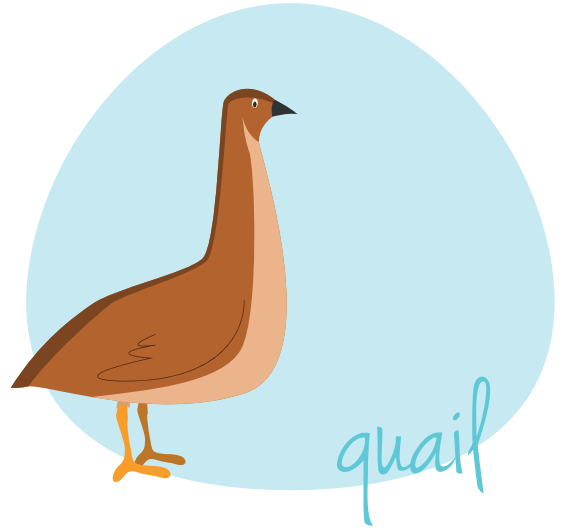


P p



Make a Word Wall

Q q

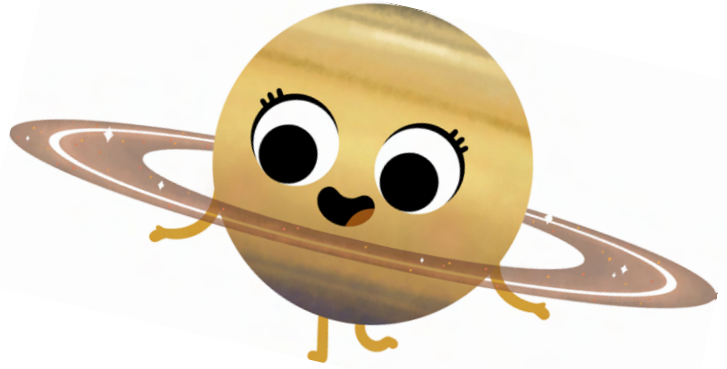


R r

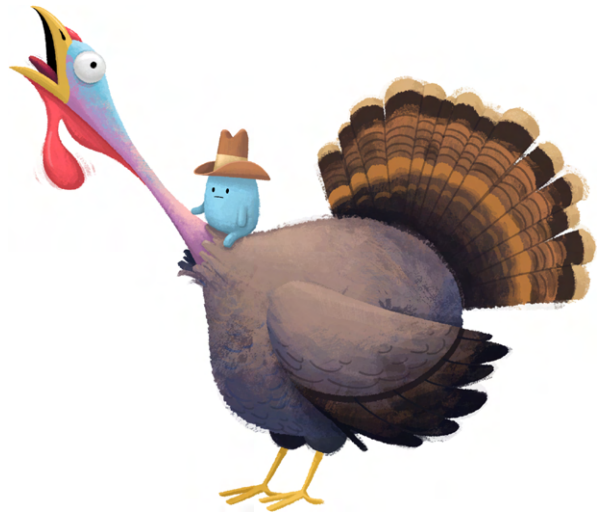


Make a Word Wall

Ss



Tt



Make a Word Wall

U u

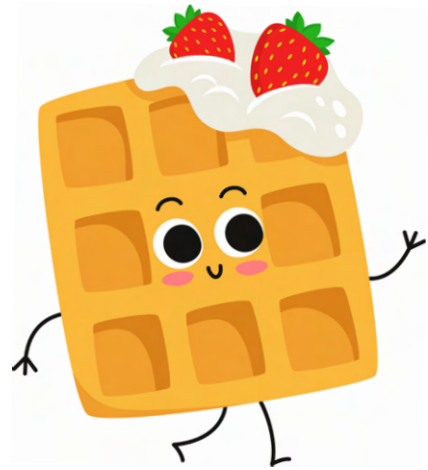


V v

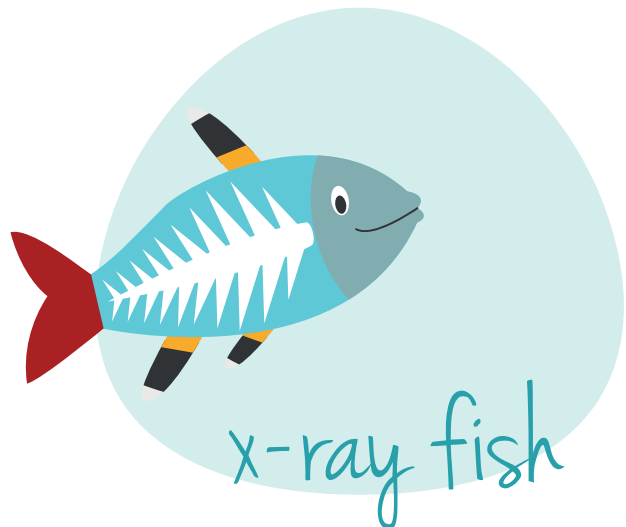


Make a Word Wall

W w



X x



Make a Word Wall

Yy



Zz



Type Your Word Wall Words

Add words that you want to use in your writing for easy reference.

Aa

Bb

Cc

Add words that you want to use in your writing for easy reference.

Dd

Ee

Ff

Gg

Hh

Ii

Add words that you want to use in your writing for easy reference.

Jj

Kk

Ll

Mm

Nn

Oo

Add words that you want to use in your writing for easy reference.

Pp

Qq

Rr

Add words that you want to use in your writing for easy reference.

Ss

Tt

Uu

Add words that you want to use in your writing for easy reference.

Vv

Ww

Xx

Add words that you want to use in your writing for easy reference.

Yy

Zz

Alphabet Tracing Train

Goes with
Alphatrain



Trace all 26 letters in the alphabet that are on the Alphatrain.

The train consists of a blue engine and 26 numbered cars, each containing a dotted letter with stroke order arrows. The letters are: 1. A, 2. B, 3. C, 4. D, 5. E, 6. F, 7. G, 8. H, 9. I, 10. J, 11. K, 12. L, 13. M, 14. N, 15. O, 16. P, 17. Q, 18. R, 19. S, 20. T, 21. U, 22. V, 23. W, 24. X, 25. Y, 26. Z. The train ends with a blue cargo car.

Rhyming Chart

Goes with *Bear in Underwear: Goodnight Underwear*



Use the word in the first column as a starting point. In the second column write a word that rhymes from the word bank. In the third column draw a picture or write your own word that rhymes with the first and second columns.

Word Bank	sticks	mouse	fight
	raccoon	underwear	sleepers
	eye	twitches	line

Word	Word Bank Word	Your Word
ticks	sticks	picks
night		
by		
itches		
moon		
peepers		
house		
fine		
bear		

Solar System KWL Chart

Make a KWL chart about the solar system.

1. Write down what you already **know** about the solar system.
2. What do you **want** to learn about the solar system.
3. Research to find the answers to your questions and write down what you **learned**.

Goes with
Earth Yay!



Topic

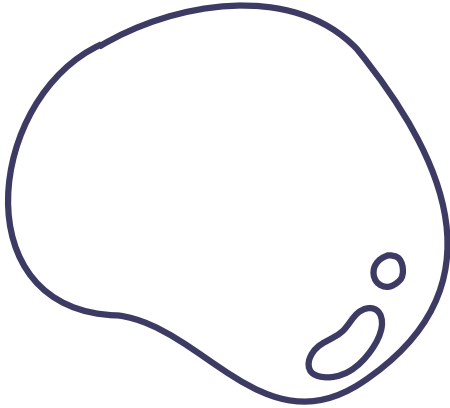
The Solar System

What I K now	What I W ant to Know	What I L earned

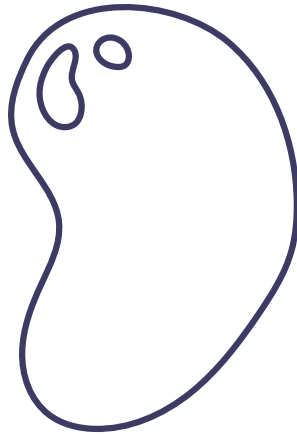
Buzzy's Colors

Trace all of the color words from *Buzzy's Colors and Lots and Lots*, and then color the paint splatches the correct color.

Goes with
*Buzzy's Colors
and Lots and
Lots.*



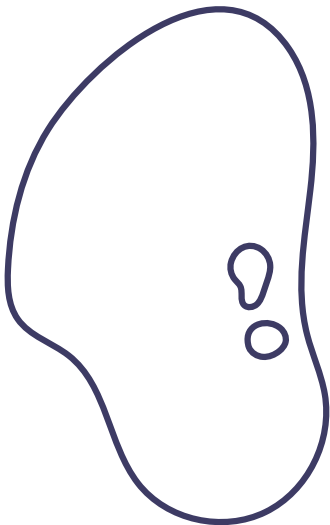
RED



YELLOW



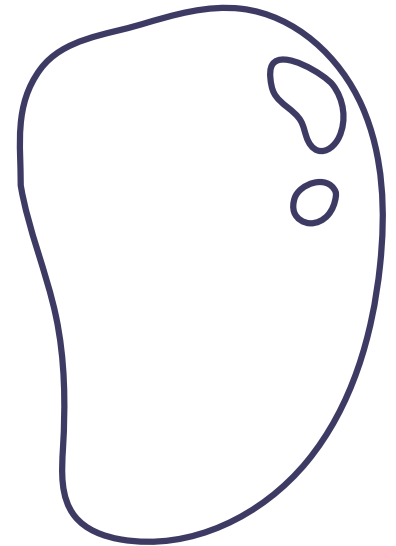
BLUE



ORANGE



PURPLE



GREEN

Coloring Sheet

Can you name all the objects you see? Color the coloring sheet and write the names of the objects below.

Goes with
*I'll Love You
For Always*



Post-Assessment

Post-assessment is a way to determine what children know about a topic after you teach it.

Post-assessments should be used regularly:

- To make instructional decisions about student strengths and needs.
- To determine flexible grouping patterns.
- To determine which students are ready for advance instruction.

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Getting Started

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- Writing activities support critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- Writing is important for vocabulary and reading development.
- Writing activities build confidence.
- Writing helps children connect to the world around them.

Activity Examples

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Beginning

Fourteen Animals That Are Definitely Not an Octopus

Developing

At the Stroke of Goodnight

Experienced

The Boy Who Grew a Forest

**You've completed
the Writing Unit!**



Drawing and Writing

If you were an animal what animal would you want to be and why? Draw yourself as an animal and finish the sentences below.

Goes with
*Fourteen
Animals That
Are Definitely
Not an Octopus*



If I could be any animal I would be a(n) _____
type of animal

because, _____
why you chose that animal

Drawing and Writing

Goes with
*At the Stroke
of Goodnight*



Draw a picture and write a story about what you see at nighttime.

At nighttime I see _____

_____.

Drawing and Writing

Write a story about a difference you would like to make in the world. Draw a picture to go along with your story.

Goes with
*A Boy Who
Grew a Forest*



Drawing and Writing

Choose a Vooks title and create your own Drawing and Writing prompt.

Prompt:



Dear Parents,

Early writing experiences provide children with an important strategy for self-expression and supports reading and writing development. Children need continuous practice in writing. In class, your child is being given opportunities to experiment and apply developing skills and knowledge through writing. Helping them develop an aptitude for writing is a tool that will help them through their entire life, from taking notes in school to writing resumes and cover letters for jobs. One of my goals is to keep all of the children interested and enjoying writing while not forcing it to the point of frustration.

I want your child to build a strong relationship with words. Giving children the tools to write the words they are reading is a major step to improving their literacy. Building their confidence in these abilities at a young age starts them on the path of being lifelong readers and learners.

We viewed the following Vooks titles where we concentrated on activities to build writing skills:

I encourage you to view these titles with your child and talk about the writing we did in class. Ask your child to share their thoughts on what we wrote and maybe even something that they have written. You can find many Drawing and Writing activities to use at home at [vooks.com/resources](https://www.vooks.com/resources).

Thank you for continuing to encourage your child to read and write. Working together, we can help instill the love of learning to create lifelong learners.

Sincerely,

Dear Parents,

Early writing experiences provide children with an important strategy for self-expression and supports reading and writing development. Children need continuous practice in writing. In class, your child is being given opportunities to experiment and apply developing skills and knowledge through writing. Helping them develop an aptitude for writing is a tool that will help them through their entire life, from taking notes in school to writing resumes and cover letters for jobs. One of my goals is to keep all of the children interested and enjoying writing while not forcing it to the point of frustration.

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Thank you for continuing to encourage your child to read and write. Working together, we can help instill the love of learning to create lifelong learners.

Sincerely,

Practicing Writing at Home

Writing requires the use of many skills—this can be overwhelming for a child. Children who struggle with writing may become frustrated. Here are some tips to help you support your child with writing at home:

1 The Assignment

Make sure your child understands the assignment. Ask your child to explain the assignment to you. Verbalizing the assignment will clarify what is expected.

2 Content

One of the first steps in writing is brainstorming what to write. Ask your child to talk about what they want to write. Make sure your child can tell you the main points and the examples that support each point.

3 Evidence

It is important that the supporting examples, anecdotes and research connect with the main points in the writing. Using the 5 W's and H: who, what, when, where, why and how is often helpful here.

4 Break the writing assignment into smaller parts

If your child is overwhelmed, breaking the writing into smaller more manageable parts can ease frustration.

5 Ask your child how you can help

Listen to what your child is asking for—it can be as simple as sharing their writing with you.

6 Read the writing aloud

You can read aloud as your child listens or your child can read aloud while you listen or both! Reading aloud will also help your child self correct many grammatical errors.

7 Your child, the writer

Encourage your child to have their own voice in writing. Writing can help your child express feelings and develop passions. Share with your child what you like about their writing. Be specific in your praise.





Keep Kids Reading Daily

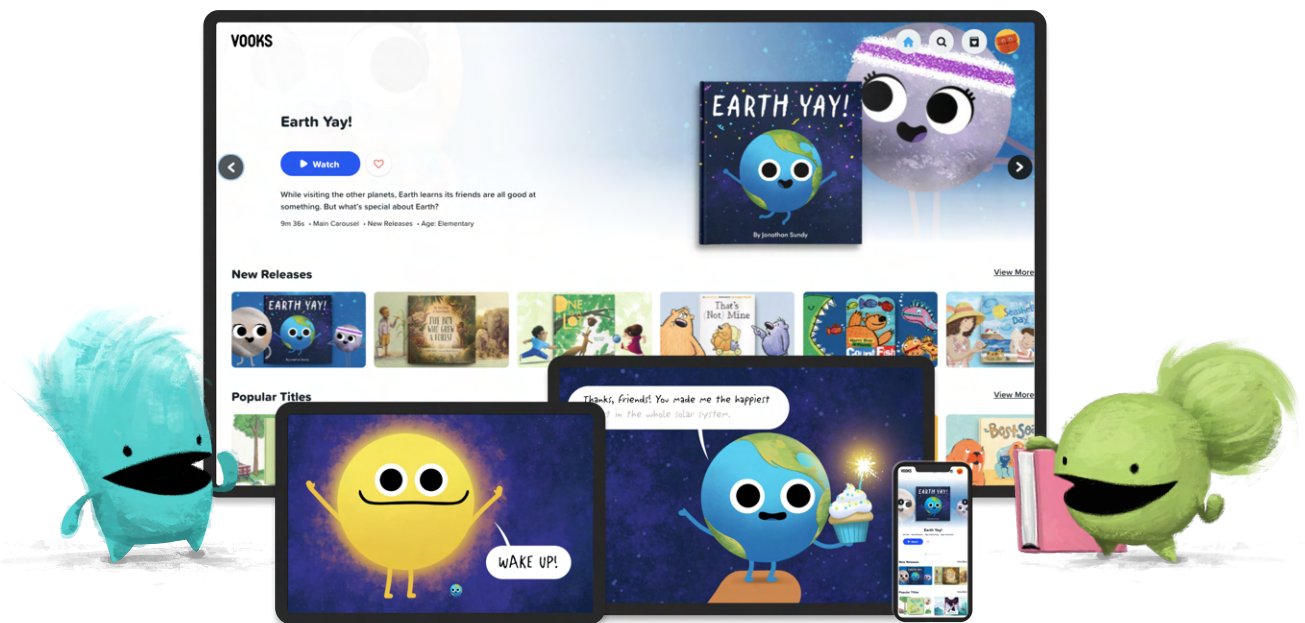
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