



# 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 Years 1 and 2 your children become more familiar with words and spelling. As their confidence increases, they will start including writing in their daily activities.

### What can I do?

- Explore words and books together. Read regularly together and encourage your children to read to you each day.
- Encourage your children to practise their writing regularly.

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

**If your children speak 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.**

- Search for words at home, and 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 children. Encourage them to leave messages for you and other family members.
- Write different messages together each day, such as your children's lunch order and notes to other family members.



You'll find more  
learning at home factsheets  
at [education.wa.edu.au](http://education.wa.edu.au).

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**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.**

- Sit down with your children and make lists of their favourite words. Read these lists with them regularly. Display the lists in areas so it's easy for your children to see them.
- Ask your children to have a go at spelling words before giving them the correct answers.

- Make good use of junk mail! Ask your children 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.

**It's important to remember that children progress at different rates. Be patient, positive and supportive, and be sure to praise them for having a go even if they get the answer wrong.**

