

## Writing Invitations

*“It is terribly important for kids to read and write for the reasons that people the world over read and write, which is to communicate, to delight, and to laugh.”*

- Lucy Calkins



It is important to offer your child authentic invitations to write. Research is clear...children who have daily opportunities to write about topics they choose and options to share their writing with others become more engaged, proficient, and lifelong writers (and readers). It is also true that having access to a wide array of writing tools supports better writing. So... bring out the notepads, envelopes, stickers, notecards, envelopes, lined and unlined paper, ink stamps, pens, markers, colored pencils, etc. and let the fun begin!

Nothing is more imperative than for your child to see writing as an integral part of daily life – not just something they do in school. Offer plentiful writing invitations regularly and let your child take on some of the day-to-day writing tasks at home – they can jot down items on the shopping list, address envelopes for an upcoming event, make a sign for the delivery service to “Please put package on front porch.”, etc. In addition to authentic writing activities at home, be on the lookout for other ways to get your child involved in writing that can be shared beyond the walls. For example:

- Letter to child’s favorite author ([www.kidsbookshelf.com](http://www.kidsbookshelf.com))
- Valentines for Vets
- Blog ([www.edublog.org](http://www.edublog.org))
- Publish child’s writing ([www.stonesoup.com](http://www.stonesoup.com))
- Grandparent’s Day
- Pen Pals program ([www.epals.com](http://www.epals.com))

