

A Special Note

While it is good to encourage and support your child's efforts to learn English, research shows that children who are read to in their first language (such as Tagalog) will have an easier time learning to read in their second language (such as English).

This means that by developing your child's literacy skills in their first language, you will be making it easier for them to learn to speak, read, and write English in the future.



The aim of this brochure is to provide parents of English Language Learners with simple tips they can use to enhance their child's learning experience. The tips are intended to be quick and easy tools that parents can make part of everyday life.

**Write every day.
Make writing fun!**



**ELK ISLAND
CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS**

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Reference

One World...One Centre. *Simple Steps to Your Child's Success* Brochure Series.



**ELK ISLAND
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Elk Island Catholic Schools

Seeing Christ in Everyone



Helping Your Child Succeed

Tips to Help English Language
Learners with **Writing**

Kindergarten to Grade 3

Tips to Help English Language Learners with Writing

Kindergarten to Grade 3



1. Read different things. Read stories, newspapers, advertisements, instructions, etc. to your child every day. Then discuss what you've read together. Reading and writing are connected; success in one area supports success in the other.

2. Encourage your child to write lots. Children love to make their own birthday cards, write thank you notes, make place cards for the table and send emails to friends. Whenever possible, let your child see you writing. This can be journaling, writing a grocery list, or instructions on the family whiteboard, and when possible let them help!

3. Don't worry about spelling mistakes. When your child is first learning to write, it's more important that they try to write and sound letters out than if they make mistakes. Writing is hard work! Encourage your child to share their thoughts in writing and praise them for their efforts.

4. Help children build their vocabulary. If you come across a new word while you're reading together, stop and talk about the meaning. You could also try rhyming games to build vocabulary. For example, start by choosing a word such as "ball". Write it down and then say all the words that rhyme, like "call", "tall", "hall", and "small".

5. Write to each other. Write notes to your child and leave them in interesting places like in their lunch bag. Ask them to write a reply or come up with something new. If they have their own email, you could write emails together to different family members.

6. Writing come in all shapes and sizes. Our world is full of words - on cereal boxes, street signs, stores, ads, etc. Point out new words and read them together. Also, point out different way letters can be written - print, cursive, and fancy variations. Let children be inspired to create their own letter art.

7. Explore the meanings of words. Create a word book at home and have your child add words as they're learned. Have them note the words they use the most and talk about why they use them.

8. Make a writing kit. Find a box or basket and fill it with paper, crayons, books, pens, and pencils. Have your child add things to the box. This makes it easy to find all the things your child needs to start writing.

9. Games can be great learning tools. Make a game of letter finding. Show them how to form a letter and then go letter hunting in your house or in a book. Count the number of "Cs" on a page. You could also find a picture they like and have them write words or sentences about the picture.

“ Write every day. Make writing fun! ”

