

# A Special Note

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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.

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



**ELK ISLAND  
CATHOLIC  
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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**

**Grades 4 to 6**

# Tips to Help English Language Learners with Writing

## Grades 4 to 6



**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. Be a writing role model.** Whenever possible, let your child see you writing. Write letters, work assignments, letters or emails, grocery lists, and/or in a journal. Talk to your child about writing for different purposes like writing for fun, for function, or for work.

**3. Encourage your child to write down their ideas.** A journal or diary is a simple way for kids to keep track of their feelings or thoughts. They can write about things that happened at school, on TV, during sports, etc. Journals can be purchased at the dollar in a variety of sizes with different colors.

**4. Keep writing session short.** When your child has a writing assignment, help to schedule brief periods of writing, rather than trying to write in one go. Encourage them to create an outline before they start writing to make it easier to organize their thoughts.

**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, have them email you or other family members for extra practice.

**6. Computers can be a writer's best friend.** There are some excellent online tools and games that game develop your child's writing skills. Check out *Read and Write Google* for editing or Google "story starters" for writing ideas.

**7. Listen and talk about writing.** Writing mistakes can often be caught by reading work aloud. When writing, if your child seems to get stuck, ask them what the problem is and talk it out.

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

**9. Games can be great learning tools.** Try games, like Junior Scrabble, word finders, and crossword puzzles, that involve creating and using words.

“ Write every day. Make writing fun! ”

