

# How to help your child with writing

## Year 3

## Ways to help with writing

- Help your child write a letter to their favourite author. Correspondence can often be sent to an author's publisher (whose details can be obtained on the internet) who will pass it on.
- When you go on holiday, encourage children to write postcards to friends or relatives. They could record things that you do in a holiday diary which they can share with friends or relatives when they get home.
- After making a cake or doing a craft activity, challenge children to write the recipe or instructions for someone else to use.
- Write an information page or booklet about something they find interesting e.g. spiders, Dr Who, dinosaurs, cats, etc. Draw a picture and label it or write a caption to go with it.
- Encourage your child to learn weekly spellings and phonic group spellings. Write the spellings in sentences with accurate punctuation and practise high frequency words and handwriting.
- Provide your child with a comfortable place to work and exciting writing materials. A dictionary and thesaurus would also be useful.
- Ask your child what his/her writing targets are from time to time and help them work specifically on these.
- Talk through their ideas with them before they start to write, for example, prompt them to think about how they intend to tackle a subject.
- Help them to reflect on their writing, particularly the effect they hoped to have on the reader. For example, is the reader sufficiently prepared for the ending? Have they introduced all the characters?
- Encourage them to read through their work, shaping their sentences for clarity and impact and checking their accuracy.

On the following pages are the targets your child is working on and will need to be secure in by the end of the school year.

Use a pronoun instead of a noun so I don't keep repeating the same noun in a paragraph.

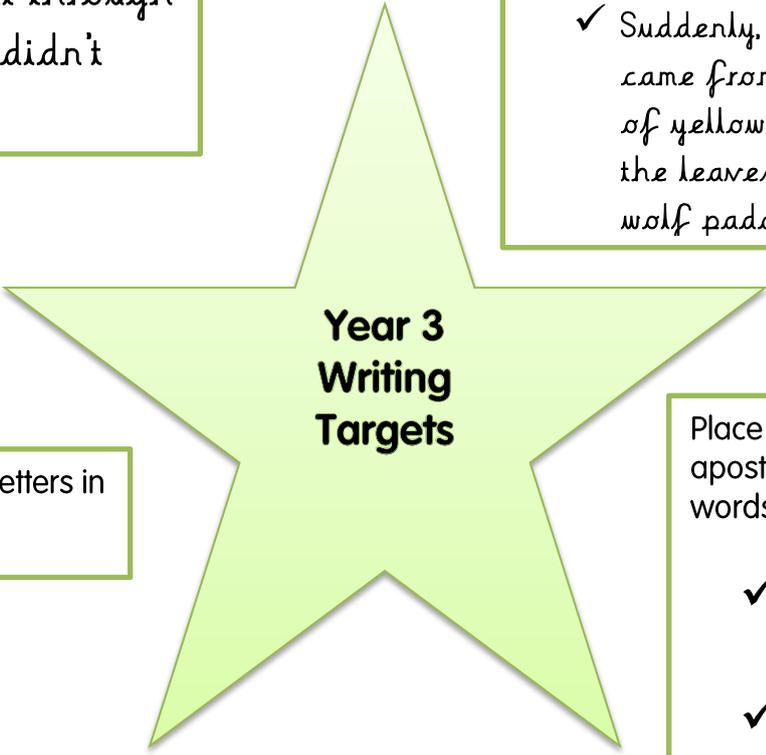
✗ James crept through the house. James didn't make a sound.

✓ James crept through the house. He didn't make a sound.

Write each different idea in my writing in its own paragraph, leaving a line between each.

✓ Harry and Alisha walked up the steep hill. It was hard work and they were soon tired. They sat down and caught their breath.

✓ Suddenly, a growling noise came from a bush! Two pairs of yellow eyes glowed through the leaves and a fearsome wolf padded out.



### Year 3 Writing Targets

Join all the lower case letters in my writing.

Place the possessive apostrophe after the s in plural words

✓ It was the boys' changing room.

✓ It was the penguins' feeding time.

Use connecting words like when, if, because and although to join together two ideas (clauses) in one sentence.

✓ She was happy when the bell rang.

✓ He thought he would win if he practised really hard.

✓ She was sleepy because she had gone to bed late.

✓ He didn't do very well although he had practised.

## Useful words I can spell

water	bear	find	these	live
away	can't	more	began	say
good	again	I'll	boy	soon
want	cat	round	animals	night
over	long	tree	never	narrator
how	things	magic	next	small
did	new	shouted	first	car
man	after	us	work	couldn't
going	wanted	other	lots	three
where	eat	food	need	head
would	everyone	fox	that's	king
or	our	through	baby	town
took	two	way	fish	I've
school	has	been	gave	around
think	yes	stop	mouse	every
home	play	must	something	garden
who	take	red	bed	fast
didn't	thought	door	may	only
ran	dog	right	still	many
know	well	sea	found	laughed

let's	fun	any	better	lived
much	place	under	hot	birds
suddenly	mother	hat	sun	duck
told	sat	snow	across	horse
another	boat	air	gone	rabbit
great	window	trees	hard	white
why	sleep	bad	floppy	coming
cried	feet	tea	really	he's
keep	morning	top	wind	river
room	queen	eyes	wish	liked
last	each	fell	eggs	giant
jumped	book	friends	once	looks
because	its	box	please	use
even	green	dark	thing	along
am	different	grandad	stopped	plants
before	let	there's	ever	dragon
gran	girl	looking	miss	pulled
clothes	which	end	most	we're
tell	inside	than	cold	fly
key	run	best	park	grow