

Hello Families,



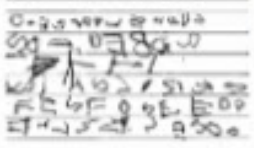
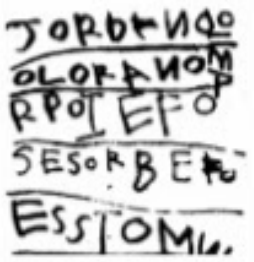

I am sharing with you today the process children go through as they learn how to write. It looks different than you might expect. I know that if you give models to children for learning to write, they will often be able to write something that looks nice and is easy to read and understand. This is great and we do sometimes offer them opportunities to copy words as part of the learning process.

When children learn how to write though, they go through a process of understanding that their words have meaning, and that they can indeed independently write something that has meaning. This process is messier and harder to read, but creates an important opportunity for their learning. As they write in their journals, and at other times, I encourage you to let them do this independently and then tell you what they “wrote.” It’s OK to occasionally show them the correct way: “I see you wrote cat by writing the letters XZK. What a great job! Do you want to see how I write cat? I hear that c-c-c sound at the beginning and the letter C makes that sound. I write it like this- c-a-t.”

I am attaching a visual of what the children’s stages of writing looks like as they grow and progress.

If you have any questions about this process or how to help your child grow in their writing, please reach out to me! I am here to help us work together to help all kids grow!

Thanks,
Laura

Scribbles or marks	Controlled linear scribbles	Mock letters or letter-like forms	Letter strings	Early invented spelling	Late invented spelling
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scribble writes deliberately • Makes marks that appear to adults to be in random order <p><i>Maya said, "Here Mommy. Read this."</i></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scribbles lines, circles, or zigzags in rows • Often repeats action and forms <p><i>Carolyn said, "That's my phone number. You can call me."</i></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writes segments of letter forms, e.g., lines, curves • May use too many segments to create a letter, e.g., five horizontal lines on the letter E • May not orient letter segments correctly <p><i>Erica said, "I'm writing my ABCs just like my sister."</i></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writes strings of letters • Writes some letters correctly • Writes letters in unconventional order • Begins to separate groups of letters with spaces • May copy environmental print <p><i>Jordan said, "Here's a ticket! You're under arrest!"</i></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses first letter of word to represent whole word • Writes initial and/or final sounds of a word to represent the whole word <p><i>*Note: in Spanish, early invented spelling may consist primarily of vowels.</i></p> <p><i>Meir wrote, "Uncle Clay, I love you."</i></p> <p>U K L a I L W</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begins to include beginning, middle, and ending sounds in words • Represents most of the sounds heard in words in the correct order <p><i>Jenna said, "I need to buy some blackberries and grapes at the store."</i></p> 