

## Grade 5 Parent Writing Tips and Strategies

- Provide your child with plenty of writing materials (paper of all kinds, pens, pencils, felt tip pens, etc.); whatever will invite your child to writing in original, colorful ways.
- Read a play that lends itself to two voices; this helps to develop fluency.
- Share some of your work-related writing with your student writer.
- Look for what is well done in your child's writing and praise this work.
- Be an eager listener of your child's writing, but encourage your child to read their writing to you.
- When your child needs suggestions for improvement, focus on your own response as a reader and begin with "I saw . . ." or, "I felt . . ."
- Assist your child in their development as a keyboarder by having them practice keyboarding skills. The following websites are helpful:  
[www.dancematyping.com](http://www.dancematyping.com), [www.abcya.com/keyboard.htm](http://www.abcya.com/keyboard.htm).  
[www.superhyperspidertyper.com](http://www.superhyperspidertyper.com)
- Use transition words and phrases in conversation with your child, especially when speaking about their writing (e.g., "First, what I'm hearing is . . .")
- Have your child send emails, thank you notes, etc. to practice typing and writing skills.

- Assist your child in trying to grammatically change their sentences in their writing from simple to more complex.
  - Practice keyboarding skills; have your child type their own reports or research papers.
  - Discourage the overuse of pronouns in your child's writing.
  - Ask questions about your child's writing that encourage further elaboration: Who? What? When? Where? How? Why?
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- Examples on website to see what grade 5 writing looks like
  - Practice, the more they write the better they'll get
  - Links for practicing typing: dancemat typing
  - Assist your child in their development as a keyboarder
  - Discourage overuse of pronouns; ask questions about their writing  
Who? What? When? Where? How?