

Grade 4 Parent Writing Tips

- **Stay Positive!** Praise and encouragement can stimulate even a reluctant writer.
- **The Art of Persuasion** - Ask your child to write a letter persuading you for your permission/or for something they want. They should present their opinion and point of view. Encourage your child to list at least three reasons why they want to persuade you.
- **Dear Diary . . .** Encourage your child to write journal entries of experiences he/she had over weekends, summers, vacations, etc.
- **What Magnificent Vocabulary You Have My Dear!**
 - Promote vocabulary usage through fun activities (MadLibs, Alliteration Games “A my name is Annie, I live in **arid** Arizona and I sell **amazing** apples)
- **Tell Me More!** Ask your child to use rich vocabulary to describe their experiences or an item. Some sample questions might be: What did it look like? How did you feel? How did the item feel? What did it smell like? What were your feelings? What did it remind you of?
- **Compare and Contrast** - Make a chart comparing different options for a rainy day, dinner selections, or book selections, etc. For example: “Today we can either go to a movie or rent one, what are the pros and cons to each option?”; “For dinner we can have pizza or grill outside, what would be good about each option?”. “You have the option to start reading Diary of A Wimpy Kid series or Holes, what do you think would be good about starting a series or not?”
- **Details, Details, Details** - When writing or speaking, students should be encouraged to use a claim or topic sentence and then provide three details. Your child can do this orally or in writing. Don’t just accept: “The school day

was fun.” Continue asking “Why was it fun?” They might say something like “It was fun because we played outside, the sun was out and our teacher said it was a great day to get fresh air. It was also fun because we had a pizza for lunch and it was really cheesy! I also really liked art class today because we got to paint a big canvas, that is why today was fun!”.

- **Be A Role Model** - Share your writing with your child and allow them to see you write. Sharing your vulnerability and editing can be powerful to students. This shows children that writing is a process.
- **Read, Read, Read!** Good readers become good writers. Their vocabularies are enriched and they are able to see many different styles of writing.
- **Have Fun!** Writing is a great way to communicate with the world and words can be fun and dynamic. Share this positivity and creativity with your child.