

## The Reading/Writing Connection

It is educator's beliefs that reading and writing are mutually supportive. For example, when a child learns the structure of a story they are then able to deepen their knowledge of how to structure a story within in their own writing. The more we read, the more we understand about stories and language which then in turn will improve our writing. As parents, there are ways you can support the reading/writing connection at home.

1. Write about reading. Children's comprehension is improved when they write about what they have read. After reading with your child, ask them to write a response to their reading (personal reactions or what their interpretation of the story was). Summaries, notes, and questions are also important for students to write.
2. Support children's writing skills. Help your child with spelling, sentence structure, and paragraph skills. By supporting spelling, children's word recognition will improve in reading. Supporting sentence structure will improve reading fluency (how a reader sounds). Lastly, supporting paragraph skills will improve reading comprehension.
3. Write more often. Encourage your child frequently. Practicing making sense of written stories will also help improve a child's reading comprehension.
4. Read, read, read! Make time to read a minimum of 20 minutes a day. The more your child reads the more improvement you will see in both reading and writing!
5. Praise your child! Encourage and support your child as they read and write. If they make mistakes praise their effort and work to correct them. Build your child's confidence so they want to read and write more often.