

"Writing is a powerful tool for children to share their thinking, capture their imagination, express themselves, reflect and explore new thinking. "

-Irene Fountas

# WRITING at HOME

Supports for Grades 3 - 5

1

Getting started can be the hardest part!

Keeping a writer's notebook to collect ideas can be helpful. Grab any notebook and start filing it up. Start with lists: like/dislikes, memories, and favorite people Have a scar? Bet it makes a great story.

2

Mimic the style of a favorite author or poet.

Collect powerful lines from a text you've read and think: what makes this line so great? How can I, as a writer, add this to my writing?

3

Write along side your child, MODEL! Try out your imagination.

Our attitudes toward writing will influence our children, make it fun! Writing is not meant to be perfect, it is a self expression.

4

Mix it up to have a variety of genres.

Write a fairy tale, a letter to a friend, a menu for dinner, an adventure story, a daily journal, a comic, a news report, an interview, a memoir, ...the list is nearly endless!

5

ENJOY IT!

We want to create lifelong writers and learners who express themselves, exploring their thinking, reflect on their memories and experiences, and use their imaginations!

## Intermediate Level Literacy Coaches

Mrs. Sam Dormady - Henry B. Burkland Elementary School - [sdormady@middleboro.k12.ma.us](mailto:sdormady@middleboro.k12.ma.us)

Ms. Lori LeBlanc - Mary K. Goode Elementary School - [lleblanc@middleboro.k12.ma.us](mailto:lleblanc@middleboro.k12.ma.us)

Resources:

Fountas, I. C., & Pinnell, G. S. (2001). Guiding Readers and Writers. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.



# Helpful Resources

## Reading

[www.storylineonline.net](http://www.storylineonline.net)

[www.getepic.com](http://www.getepic.com)

[www.overdrive.com](http://www.overdrive.com)

## Writing

[www.storyjumper.com](http://www.storyjumper.com)

[www.scribblitt.com](http://www.scribblitt.com)

[www.littlewritebrain.com](http://www.littlewritebrain.com)

[www.storyboardthat.com](http://www.storyboardthat.com)

## Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A"  
reads **20 minutes**  
each day

3600 minutes in  
a school year

**1,800,000 words**



90<sup>th</sup> percentile

Student "B"  
reads **5 minutes**  
each day

900 minutes in  
a school year

**282,000 words**

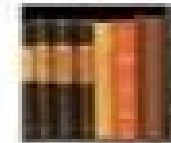


50<sup>th</sup> percentile

Student "C"  
reads **1 minute**  
each day

180 minutes in  
a school year

**8,000 words**



10<sup>th</sup> percentile

By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

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