

Writing in PreK

Emergent writers are young writers whose writing ranges from random scribbling to letter strings. They communicate mainly through drawings, and cannot read their writing the following day. These writers need instruction in:

- *Message principle - what we say can be written down.
- *Print principles - spacing, directionality, text wrapping
- *Letter formation
- *Letter/sound relationships

Stage 1 - Children draw randomly and may or may not be able to tell about their drawings. To take them to the next stage, these children need:

- *Lots of exposure to print
- *Tracking and text wrapping modeled with large text
- *Opportunities to explore with writing tools

Stage 2 - Children begin to notice symbols and to make mock letters. In the beginning of this stage, the young writer still may not have a message, but later begins to attach a message to the print. To take them to the next stage, these children need:

- *To learn to write their names
- *To learn to write the word "I"
- *To learn that what we say is made of words that are separated by spaces.

Stage 3 - Children write letter strings using familiar letters, usually from their own names. To take them to the next stage, these children need:

- *To know a few sight words
- *To learn some letter/sound relationships based on their names or names of friends.

Developing writers are young writers who have broken the sound/symbol code. They are beginning to decode their own writing and read it the following day.


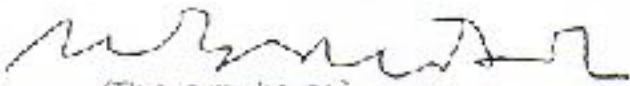
Stage 4 - Children write using initial sounds

- *Coaching for spacing
- *Additional sight words

Stage 5 - Children are beginning to hear and use ending sounds. These children need:

- *Practice in sound stretching to hear medial sounds
- *Begin with long vowels first
- *Continue adding sight words

STAGES OF WRITING DEVELOPMENT CHART

1.	 (This is my house.)	Pictures
2.	 (This is my house.)	Scribble (Approximation)
3.	ACMAOWA (This is my house.)	Random Letters
4.	I V A D A A O (I have a dog.)	Random and Initial
5.	I L M B (I like my bike.)	Initial Consonants
6.	I l k m i B k. (I like my bike.)	Initial and First Syllable
7.	I lik to pla with my cat. (I like to play with my cat.)	Vowel Sounds Appear
8.	My favorit dinosaur is the stegosorus. (My favorite dinosaur is the stegosaurus.)	All Syllables Represented
9.	Today I am going to the stor with my mother. I am going to by a present for my brohrs birthday. He is thre vers old.	Multiple, Related Sentences and Many Words with Correct Spelling

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