

Getting your children engaged and wanting to write...

This idea(s) will start the children's imaginations off at home and should help you to engage your reluctant writers at home.

Choose one of the following (or think of your own) as a 'provocation' to start children off and follow their interests depending on where they take it:
























- Use flour to make some footprints either in your house or in the garden (maybe spill a bag of pasta on the floor as if something was looking for food!).
- Create a small mess /collection of shoes (was it the elves again?)
- Set up some of your children's toys as if they're in a meeting (inspired by Toy Story).

Once you've got them hooked – model/suggest one of the following:

- Suggest designing and then building a trap to catch them/it.
- Suggest/model leaving a note for the monster/toys (this can become a dialogue of messages every day).
- Write letters to your teacher/ emergency services explaining what happened.
- Helicopter Stories - The children also love writing their own stories and acting them out. I usually encourage them to write the beginning and then write the rest for them as they dictate it.

Allow children to use the sound mat when writing their sentences:

Phase 2 Sound Mat

s 	a 	t 	p 	i 	n 	m 	d 
g 	o 	c 	k 	ck 	e 	u 	r 
h 	b 	f 	ff 	l 	ll 	ss 	

Phase 3 Sound Mat

j 	v 	w 	x 	y 	z 	zz 	qu 
ch 	sh 	th 	ng 	ai 	ee 	igh 	oa 
oo 	oo 	ar 	or 	ur 	ow 	oi 	ear 
air 	ure 	er 					