

# Encouraging Early Writing

## Scribbling Stage

1. Encourage early attempts to write (scribble)
2. Provide crayons, paper, and other writing devices.
3. Read books, play letter blocks, talk about letters and words.
4. Write children's names on their writing.
5. Display writing in conspicuous places.

## Drawing Stage

1. Comment positively on the details of the drawing.
2. Comment on letters, names, or words incorporated into drawings.
3. Read writing back to the author if asked, "What did I write?"
4. Praise and make specific observations about the piece.
5. Display drawings and writing prominently.

## **Letter-String Stage**

1. Encourage the incorporation of environmental print into writing.
2. Suggest ideas for inventorying letter and word knowledge.
3. Answer questions and make observations about words and letters.
4. Ask children to tell you about their writing and drawing.
5. Share writing within the learning community.

## **Developmental Stage**

1. Encourage spelling inventions and provide help as needed.
2. Encourage detailed illustrations.
3. Have children read their writing aloud.
4. Read good literature and talk about the authors.
5. Share writing from the author's chair.