

Did you know...



Children with print awareness understand that print has different functions; for example, menus list food choices, a book tells a story, a sign can point to a favorite restaurant or warn of danger. Show children that print is all around them. Point it out when you are out in the community, or around the house.

Labels can help children identify where things belong. Chest of drawers can be labeled for socks, shirts, etc., with a picture of the item next to the word. You can also label tubs or boxes of toys to make cleanup easier and help your child sort and organize their belongings.



Here's how...



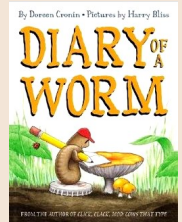
- ✦ Help your child write letters to family or friends. Writing thank you notes or describing an activity are a fun way to start. These can be written in an email or stamped letter.
- ✦ Ask your child to create lists that will help them or the family. They can make lists for:
 1. Going to the grocery store
 2. Errands to run
 3. Tasks that need to be done inside or outside the house
 4. Gifts they would like to be given for special occasions
- ✦ Create a special place for your child's writing materials— a drawer or a box will do. Collect materials for your child to use as they practice writing, such as paper, envelopes, and writing tools.

Read



Diary of a Worm, by Doreen Cronin

Your child will laugh out loud at this glimpse into the life of a worm in these hilarious diary entries. Difficulties such as having no arms, having a head that looks a lot like your rear end, and facing the dangers of people digging for bait are balanced by a loving family and good friends.



Author Doreen Cronin has written several funny books, including: *Diary of a Worm*, *Diary of a Spider*, and *Diary of a Fly*; and *Click, Clack, Moo: Cows that Type*

Choose Books



Kinds of books that develop print awareness:

- Books with lots of punctuation marks
- Books with signs, lists, labels, menus, charts, instructions, etc. as part of the illustrations
- Books in which characters are using print in different ways, such as writing a letter, or making a checklist
- Books with speech bubbles
- Recipe books
- Any book!

Talk



Ask your child to guess how long a gummy worm is using pennies as a measuring tool. Write down their prediction and then measure it out. Compare the prediction to the amount of pennies needed. Do the same thing with the gummy worm stretched out. You can put the gummy worm in water and it will become bigger so you can make predictions about how many pennies long it will be.

Write



This website has a variety of activities to help your kindergartner practice writing. It is most effective to keep these activities fun and a natural part of the day, such as making a grocery list or signing their name.

www.first-school.ws/theme/handwriting.htm

Play



Writing My Name

(to the tune of If You're Happy and You Know It)

The first thing on my paper is my name,
The first thing on my paper is my name,
The teacher needs to know
Who did this work and so
The first thing on my paper is my name.



www.fernsmithsclassroomideas.com/2012/10/the-first-thing-on-your-paper-is-your.html

Sing

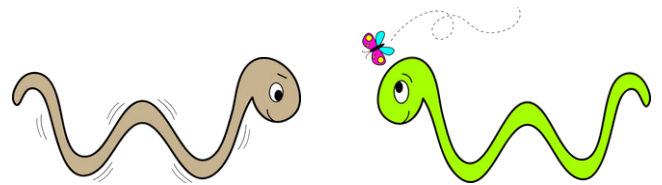


Did You Ever See an Earthworm?

To the tune of "The More We Get Together"

Did you ever see an earthworm,
An earthworm, an earthworm?
Did you ever see an earthworm
Move this way and that?

Move this way and that way,
And this way and that way,
Did you ever see an earthworm
Move this way and that?



At your library...



Don't have access to a computer? Many libraries do not require a library card in order to use the computers. Some even offer free computer classes.