



Writing by Design[®]

Unit Two

Greetings, Wonderful Parents!

During the past five weeks, our class learned that spoken words can be written. We also learned that pictures can tell a story. The children shared their drawings and writings with friends and the whole class.

Our next writing unit will focus on proper pencil grip and control. The class will trace lines, curves, and shapes. We will use simple shapes in our drawings as we continue to add details to our pictures and write about different emotions.

Ideas for Home Support

1. Have your child practice tracing lines, curves, and shapes. Draw a variety of lines on a piece of paper. Then have your child trace those lines with crayons or a pencil. Help them to learn to hold the pencil or crayon correctly.
2. If your child is still learning to write their first name, write their name on a piece of paper. Make the letters fairly large. Let your child choose a crayon to trace the letters. Then have them trace their name again with a different color. Continue with several colors, making a “rainbow name”. If your child can already write their first name, consider having them practice their last name.
3. Using a simple coloring book, rather than coloring the pictures, ask your child to trace the lines of the picture.
4. On a blank piece of paper, draw a simple shape (a line, circle, box or squiggle) and ask your child to make a picture from that simple line. When complete, ask them to tell you about the picture.
5. To help your child build hand strength and fine motor skills, show your child how to use playdough to make letters or shapes. Rolling and squishing playdough builds hand dexterity and strength making it easier to hold a pencil.

Thank you for all your support!

Sincerely,