



# Writing by Design<sup>®</sup>

## Unit Two

Dear Parents,

During the past four weeks, our class learned that spoken words can be written. Students also learned that pictures can tell a story. Students learned to grip and control a pencil by tracing objects and making pictures. The children shared their drawings and writings with peers and the whole class.

In the next 8 weeks, your child will be building the language of a writer. As students participate in modeled, shared, and interactive writing lessons they will learn that authors use words to describe things, and words can create a picture in the mind of a reader. Students will write sentences about their families, and learn to describe food and how it tastes. The class will also begin to use a rubric to judge how they can improve their writing.

### Ideas for Home Support

- Have your child trace lines, curves, and shapes. Draw a variety of lines on a piece of paper. Then ask your child to trace the lines with crayons or a pencil. Help them to practice staying as close as possible to the lines.
- Using a simple coloring book, first, ask your child to trace the lines of the picture. Then color the picture in.
- Play “I Spy” in your home. Your child picks a secret object and begins to describe it using the sentence, “I spy with my little eyes something that is \_\_\_\_”. Have your child continue to give clues until you guess the object. This activity will help your child build their describing vocabulary.
- Read picture books to your child and ask them to describe the events. Once they are familiar with the book, ask them to retell the story, picture by picture.

Thank you for your support!