



Let's Write!

Current curriculum standards require students to write more than just a short story. Common Core Standard Initiative indicates that students must "demonstrate increasing sophistication in all aspects of language use, from vocabulary and syntax to the development and organization of ideas, and they should address increasingly demanding content and sources." Written expression must include argumentative voices to persuade the reader, descriptive words to set the mood and atmosphere for their characters and apprise knowledge seekers with credible interesting details. Teachers help kids build those skills throughout the school year. However, children need additional opportunities to practice and exercise creative writing.

So how do you get kids to practice writing something more than an emojis?

Here's 9 ideas to get kids writing more at home:

1. Keep a diary...like the old fashioned kind, with lock and key!
2. Start a blog about a hobby, babysitting adventures, movie reviews, etc.
3. Submit a how-to article, poem, short story to kid magazines, local paper
4. Write a letter or email to compliment the company of your favorite product.
Let the company know why you like it and often times you get a fun letter back...sometimes more!
5. Write to a favorite author and explain why you like the book
6. Write a play for the family
7. Rewrite the ending to a fairytale
8. Use online apps to create your own story book
9. Get an international pen pal