

## Simple Writing Centers and Activities To Enhance Writing

Danielle F. Lowe [www.babystepinc.com](http://www.babystepinc.com)

1. Letter and Word Water Writing- With a small dentist cup of water, offer the students a letter or word to write on the chalkboard. (Be sure to put sponges on the ledge to catch the water.)
2. Partner Name Writing - Children can partner up to use the name chart and take turns spelling and writing their classmates names.
3. Name Match- Using manilla file folders, glue student pictures down and then place names with Velcro in an attached zip-lock bag.
4. Alphabetic Order- Using alphabet strips from the dollar store, cut each letter and have the children put them in ABC order on the morning carpet!
5. Guess My Letter! - Using alphabet strips from the dollar store, the child has to offer his/her partner various words beginning with the letter they are holding. When the other child correctly guesses, they get the card.
6. Letter Sort- Using alphabet strips from the dollar store, the children can sort the letters based on shapes of the letters or pictures accompanying letters.
7. Magnet Months- Using magnets, cookie sheets, and the months written on sentence strips, the children rewrite the months. (Can be adapted to days of the week, colors, etc.)
8. Magnet Name Writing- see above description. I recommended placing this center near the class name list.
9. Puppet Reading and Writing- student picks his/her favorite puppets and reads or writes them a letter.
10. Alphabet Play-Doh- using templates from [www.makinglearningfun.com](http://www.makinglearningfun.com), the students can roll out the play-doh to create each letter of the alphabet.

11. Alphabetic Order Play-Doh- see above description. However, for this activity, children will partner up and put the alphabet play-doh in alphabetic order.
12. Play-Doh Pasta- With alphabet pasta from Hannafords or Walmart, the student will press letters into the play-doh to form designated words. Can be names, sight words, rhyming words, etc.
13. Pretzel Letters - Using pretzel sticks from the dollar store, teacher will give sound of letter for students to create.
14. Pretzel Name Writing- Student will reinforce name writing skills using pretzel sticks and "traditional" pretzels.
15. Pretzel Sight Words- Student will create sight words or word wall words and have his/her partner read/guess it.
16. Geoboard Letters- Students can explore which letters they can make with the geoboard, while the other student guesses (SMARTBOARD)
17. Geobord Sight Words- see above description
18. Alpha-Bits Sort- Using Alpha-Bits cereal, the children can put the Alpha-Bits in alphabetical order, or sort by vowels, etc.
19. Alpha-Bits Name Writing- Students can spell out their first, middle, and or last name using Alpha-Bits.
20. Newspaper Detective- Independently or with a partner, the children can highlight letters, sight words, or word wall words.
21. Name and Picture Classification- Using individual student pictures or pictures cut out of magazines, students work in teams to sort pictures and create a list.
22. Letter and Object Match- Using an alphabet strip from the dollar store and random objects such as happy meal toys, students will match according to initial letter sound. ([www.thekcrew.net](http://www.thekcrew.net))
23. Alphabet Match- With an alphabet pocket folder, or "lettered" soup containers, students will place various objects into correct location.
24. Word Clothes Line - students can be give a list of familiar words and then put them in order on clotheslines. ([www.thekcrew.net](http://www.thekcrew.net))
25. Overhead Writing- with a partner, one child picks a letter or word from the pile while the other writes it on the overhead with a dry erase marker. ([www.littlegiraffes.com](http://www.littlegiraffes.com))

26. Flashlight Writing- with a partner, one child shines the light on a selected word around the room, while the other writes it.
27. Write Around the Room- each student is given a clipboard to write any words from around the room
  - a. Interactive Word Wall - student created and interactive
  - b. What's my address? - Student picture, name, and address
  - c. Labels - put a label on everything in the classroom that will assist children
  - d. Number Concept Chart - student created number chart
  - e. Specials Schedule- with specialist name, picture, date, and time
27. ABC Weaving-student will sew the given letter ([www.abc123kindergarten.com](http://www.abc123kindergarten.com))
28. Twizzler/Wiki Stix Letter Practice - Students can practice writing manipulating Twizzler Peels or Wiki Stix.
29. Magnetic Gel Writing Boards - students can practice writing letters and words. They retrace the formation to erase too!
30. Additional Reinforcements - students can use alphabet stamps of Lite Brite to reinforce writing skills
31. Stone/Pebble Spelling- on small pebbles, with a black marker, write each letter on a stone. Students are then given a list of words to create using the pebbles. ([www.abc123kindergarten.com](http://www.abc123kindergarten.com))
32. ABC Block Match- On an alphabet placemat from the dollar store, or a self-made one, students will match the block with the appropriate letter.
33. Snake Spelling- students will create different letters or words using snakes from the dollar store. ([www.abc123kindergarten.com](http://www.abc123kindergarten.com))
34. Nature Walks - Observation Logs- this can be done as a whole group on an observational walk outside, or partners examining a science center, each student will create a list of his/her observations.
35. Letters to... - Students can write letters to a favorite author, the president, a parent, the principal, a soldier, fire/police person, etc.

### Helpful Websites to Reinforce Writing Skills;

- [www.pbskids.org](http://www.pbskids.org)
  - Word World
  - Clifford the Big

- Mister Rogers' Red Dog Neighborhood
- Dragontales
- Superwhy
- Reading Rainbow
- Arthur
- Maya & Miguel
- Sesame Street

–

– [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com)

– [www.primarygames.com](http://www.primarygames.com)

– [www.iknowthat.com](http://www.iknowthat.com)

– [www.funbrain.com](http://www.funbrain.com)

– [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com)

–

[www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)

– [www.kindersite.org](http://www.kindersite.org)

[www.hubbardscupboard.org](http://www.hubbardscupboard.org)