

# Early Literacy Tips: WRITE

**A key component of early literacy storytimes is sharing information with parents and caregivers through early literacy reminders.**

**Using reminders that flow naturally into what is already happening in storytime can help make giving reminders easier and more fluid.**

Scribbles may not look like much, but using writing and drawing tools to form lines and shapes on paper helps children begin to understand how writing works. It helps to build letter recognition!

Fingerplays like Itsy Bitsy Spider, or playing with playdough, squishing bubbles, and scribbling are great ways to help children build up their hand muscles in order to get them ready to hold writing implements.

Have children help you cook. They can "write" the ingredients needed on a list. Run your finger over each step in the recipe to show that you are working in order.

When your child finds a favorite story or character, encourage him/her to draw a picture of the character and "write" his/her own story about the character.

Big letters in picture books like this one are a great opportunity for you to trace letters on the page and let your toddler do the same. This helps them recognize letters and builds the foundation for drawing and writing letters and words.

Grownups, we use shaker eggs every week because they're fun and the babies love them, *and* using shaker eggs also improves your child's grip and fine motor skills, which will eventually allow him or her to hold a pencil and write!

