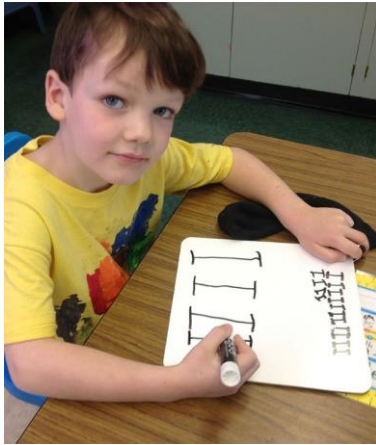


From August 14, 2020

For October 19, 2021

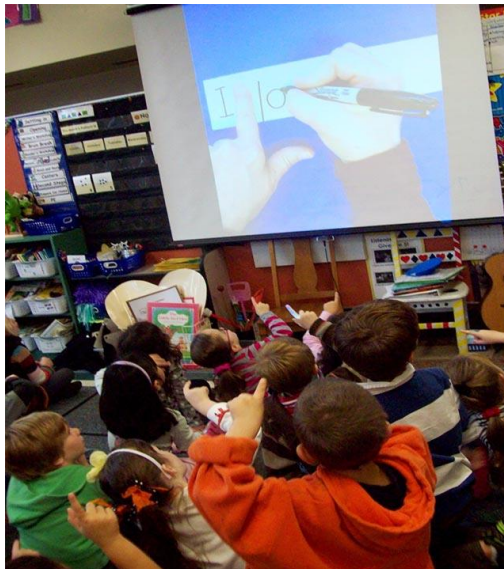
Build Circles of Kindergarten Writing Mastery and a Culture of Writers!

Daily "Heart Word" Sentence Quick Writes Is a Powerful Strategy!



It's early in the year and kindergarten children are learning the joys of writing for real-world purposes. They are learning to write their first high-frequency "heart word" sentences: "I love you." This becomes the **first circle of writing mastery**. Daily "quick writes" of "heart word" sentences is the highest-impact strategy I can give teachers: it is how we increase "word power per minute" (a.k.a. writing fluency and stamina)!

Gradual-release-of-responsibility model



Students learn pink "heart words" using the *Sing, Sing, Spell, and Read!* strategies simultaneously taught with handwriting. Katie Nelson teaches kindergartners to

write a whole sentence using a gradual-release-of-responsibility model. Notice sky writing and use of white/erase boards.

"I love you" is a powerful anchor sentence for practicing efficient handwriting.



We give children "I love you" writing models: a crystal-clear example of what good handwriting looks like. *Multisensory ABC and Phonic Immersion, Kindergarten-Friendly Handwriting* lessons, and "heart word" sentences dramatically increase writing fluency and stamina.

Make learning to write a meaningful, social experience. Invite children to take home and hide secret messages.



We ask children to pause, think, and talk to their writing partner. Who says "I love you" to you? To whom do you say, "I love you"? Finally, they brainstorm where they could hide secret "I love you" messages...

I say, 'I love you' to my Mom... I could hide one in the refrigerator ...under the computer...in Dad's shoe...

I'll get up after my sister is asleep and put one in her room.

Kindergarten-friendly handwriting is part of a comprehensive writing program: It is practiced in a meaningful context.



This is what engaged writers look like. Sometimes the biggest challenge is that no one wants to stop and go out to recess! Notice the "I love you" writing models at the table.

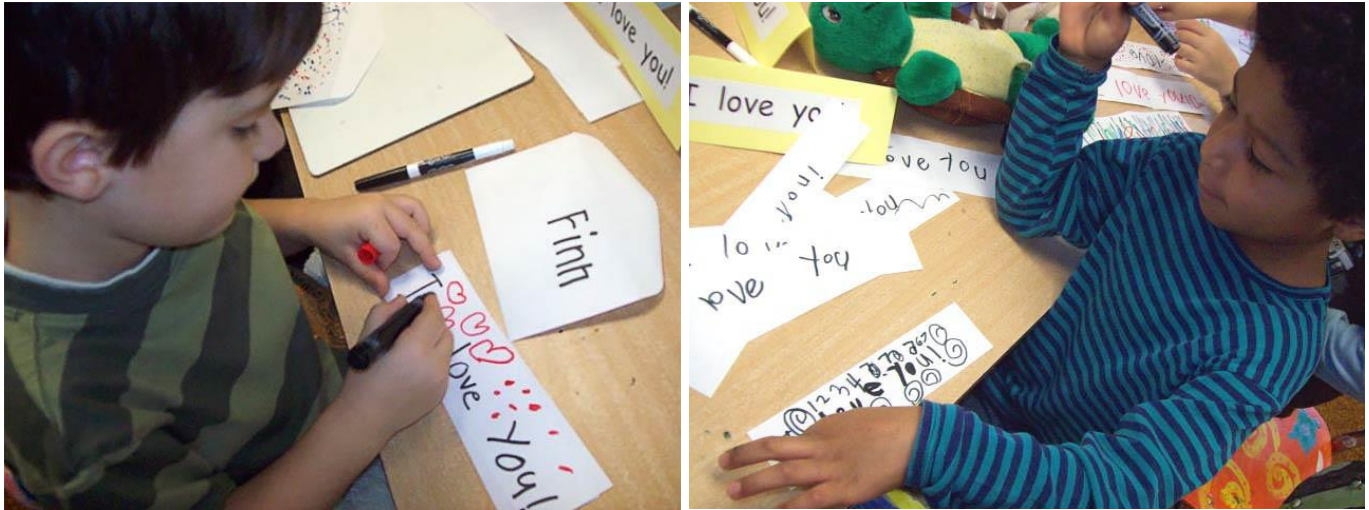
Help children care about writing: Make writing real and provide support for success!



Younger children—especially boys—come to kindergarten with a wide range of fine motor development. Teachers provide multisensory experiences and individually

coach children on efficient motions for letters within the context of real words. They have high expectations and give all children the scaffolding needed to build on success.

Children become engaged and purposeful writers.



I'm going to send this to my Grandma in Arizona, says one ambitious writer. Sometimes the engaged writers pause to decorate their messages.

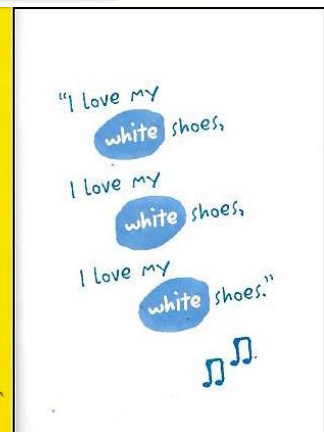
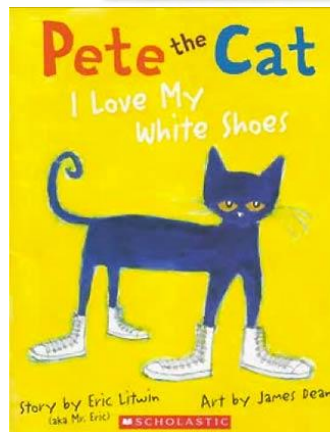
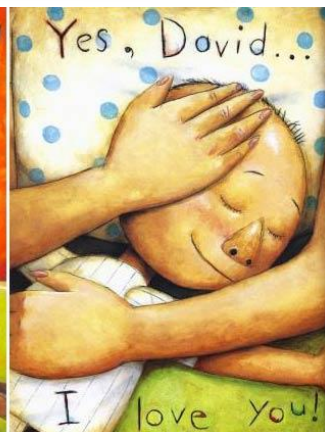
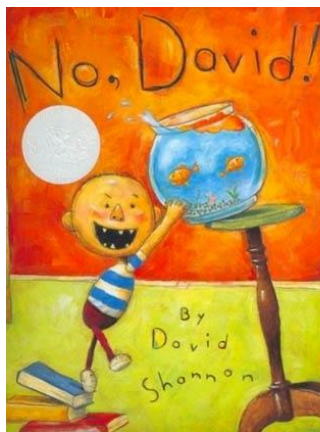
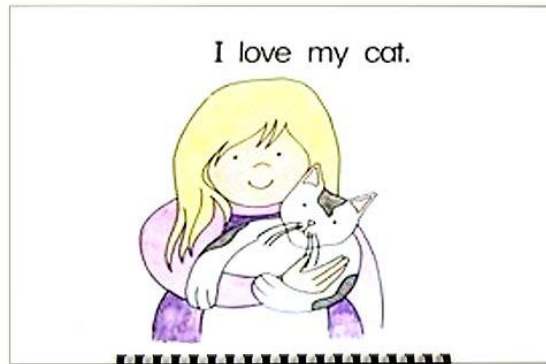
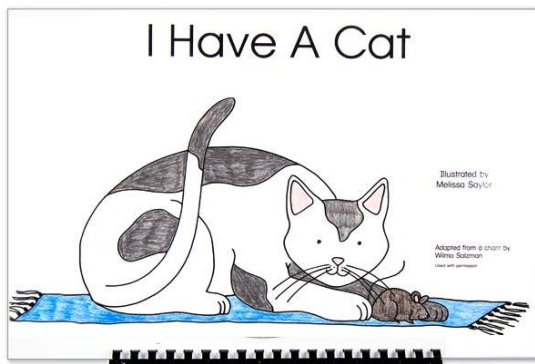
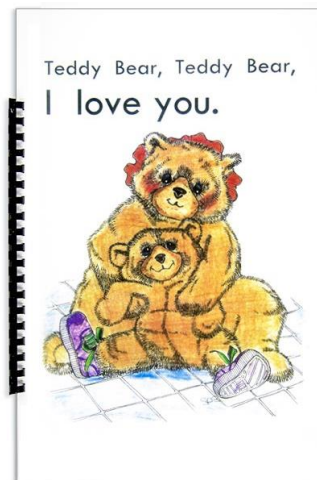
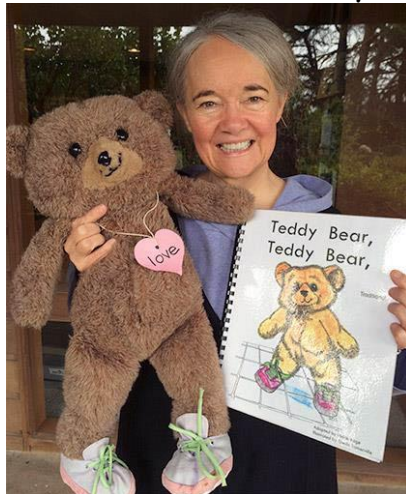
How many 'I love you' messages will you write?

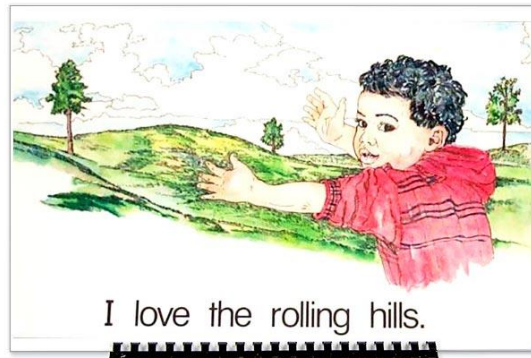


One boy decided to make 10 secret messages to hide all around his home. Another boy decided to write 20 secret messages and number them 1-20!

Writing Naturally Transfers to Reading:

Kindergarten "book lovers" read and reread favorite predictable books. Notice all the opportunities to read "I love you" in well-loved kindergarten books.





1. **A growing collection of words** they know "by heart." We call them "heart words." Heart word sentences build the first circles of writing mastery.
2. **Words they spell phonetically**, encoding sounds to print. Confidence with phonetic-based words allows students to fearlessly tackle any unknown word!

A young boy with curly hair, wearing a light blue t-shirt, holds a purple card with a heart and the word 'dad' and a pink heart with the word 'love'.

Sight Word Bundle will soon have 32 Spelling Songs with QR codes

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All children thrive within a multisensory Talented and Gifted (TAG) writing framework. Honor the creative process: let them draw, write, and make books!