

Giffnock Primary school supporting your child in Writing

Parental engagement
Supporting your child's learning in Writing

Talking before writing enables children to imitate the key language they need for a particular topic orally before they try reading and analysing it.



OVERVIEW

- The science!
- Writing in P1-3
- Writing in P4-7
 - Use of VCOP

 How we as parents can we support our children's writing.



Key Statements about Writing

- Writing is integral to our pupils whole language experience; it is a crucial part of thinking and learning.
- Reading and writing are closely connected 'Reading is for writing and writing is for reading.'
- Writing is more than putting words on paper your child needs to think about what to write; say what they want to write, write it down and re read their writing. It is a balancing act between having wonderful ideas (creativity), organising their ideas and the ability to put these exciting ideas onto paper.
- Through fun activities that help them rehearse the tune of the language they need, followed by shared writing to show them how to craft their writing, children are helped to write in the same style.



Providing the right environment

- The goal is to make writing easier and enjoyable:-
- Provide a place good place to write, desk, table with good lighting
- Materials plenty of paper pencils crayons
- Allow time help your child spend time thinking about a writing project
- Respond to the ideas your child expresses verbally or in writing
- Praise your child for effort
- Write together it is important your child sees that writing is important to adults

EARLY EXPERIENCES of writing

- Mark making scribbling experimental play
- Plasticene play, puppet play creating characters
- Genre environmental print road sign, street names, shop names, nursery rhymes and games, songs
- Literacy rich home environment newspapers books, radio, conversations, recipe books, DIY books, maps, telephone directory
- Encouraging an awareness of a variety of purposes of writing
- Write with your child for a variety of reasons
- Thank you letters, party invitations, Christmas/ greeting cards
- Role-play at home making labels and signs for round the house cupboard, toilet, my room
- Recipes, helping making shopping lists,
- Making books together
- Menus etc



Supporting your child older years

- Phone messages
- Tasks to do lists
- Keeping a diary
- Making a cartoon strip of a favourite film or book or day out
- Using word games, crosswords, puzzles, anagrams,
- Writing to relatives, friends, penpals
- Exchange postit notes with your children
- Making captions of family events to go with photos
- Postcards
- Making their own books / adverts/ writing down song lyrics / comics/ magazines/ travel catalogues/
- Provide dictionary / thesaurus
- Writing travel plans for booking a holiday



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- √ http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictu
 res/index.shtml
- √ http://www.readwritecount.scot/on-the-bus/
- √ http://www.storylineonline.net/





. Try to search for connectives in the stories you read at home. Use them in a different sentence.

- Try rearranging sentences with the connectives at the start.
- . Give your child a connective and ask them to use it in a sentence.

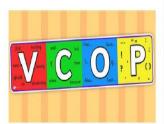
0-Openers

An opener is the first word used in a sentence. When children start on their writing journey most sentences initially begin with 'I'. To develop this try:

- . Searching for openers in the stories you read at home and use them to start your own sentences.
- . Give your child an opener and ask them to complete the sentence. Some good openers are: Next, Although, I discovered, Eventually,
- . Search for powerful openers-these end in 'ly' and 'ing'.

- each punctuation sign in the air.
- · Use different types of punctuation in different sentences.

A Guide **V.C.O.P**



September 2015





















What is V.C.O.P?

V.C.O.P is an acronym that represents four generic areas of key learning within writing.

- V-Vocabulary
- C-Connectives
- O-Openers
- P-Punctuation

How are we using V.C.O.P within Giffnock Primary School?

Children in each class will learn key skills related to the four areas.

Why are we using V.C.O.P within the school?

We are using V.C.O.P to help children understand the key aspects of writing and how they can progress to the next level of writing.

Does the V.C.O.P method work?

Many schools have, and continue to successfully teach the V.C.O.P method. They have seen major improvements in their writing once V.C.O.P is integrated and taught across the school at all age ranges.

Who developed V.C.O.P?

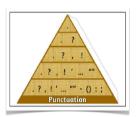
Ros Wilson has developed the V.C.O.P materials and has a website for further background information at: https://global.oup.com/education/content/pri mary/experts/ros-wilson

How does V.C.O.P help my child to improve their writing skills?

V.C.O.P works on the principle of exploring where aspects of writing can be improved or 'up-levelled.' To reach the next stage in their writing children will need to know how to 'up-level'.

A series of pyramids give children guidance on the next steps to take to further improve their written work. For example;

The Punctuation Pyramid.



The top of the pyramid shows the most basic of punctuation: a full stop. As writers become more competent they will start to use a wider range of punctuation correctly within their work. Similar pyramids are used to show the progression of all four areas within the V.C.O.P targets.

Helping my child with V.C.O.P at home.

V-Vocabulary (Wow words!)

- Talk about and write down interesting (Wow) words in the stories you are reading at home.
- Try using the words you have found in a sentence.
- Have a mini-quiz: 'How many words can you think of instead of 'said'?' or 'went', 'nice','good'. Put each one in a sentence.
- Give your child a Wow word to put into a sentence. How many different sentences can they make?
- Give your child two different words and ask them to make different sentences from them. E.g.: 'magical' and 'boy'.

Done









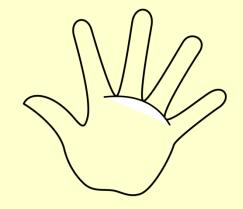








Give me five!



- 1. Writing together variety of purposes
- 2. Literacy rich environment in the home
- 3. Environmental print
- 4. Skills for learning, life and work
- 5. Praise effort

