

Beginning Writers Need

A positive attitude to writing

I enjoy writing because:

I can write the letters of the alphabet without thinking about them

I can write some words from memory and sound the rest out

If I don't spell words correctly that's OK, I can write them the way they sound

I want to share my ideas - the teacher lets me write about things I am interested in

Knowledge of writing conventions

Punctuation

Sentence structure

Paragraphs

Genres – the purpose of different text structures



Language knowledge

Background knowledge

Vocabulary knowledge

Language organisation skills

Knowledge of sentence structure (syntax)

Awareness of English phonology

Concepts about Print

How books work

How stories work

Text carries the message

Recognises word, letter, sentence

Skills for turning the spoken word into print

1. Write words from memory – sight word retrieval for previously seen words
2. Ability to sound out words

Hear, identify and pronounce sounds in words

Break words into syllables

Break words and syllables into sounds (segmenting skills)

Make associations between words - rhyming words, sound chunks and images of known words

Record ALL the sounds of English one way

Understand that sounds can be written in different ways

The ability to write alphabet letters

Correct letter formation

Fine motor skills

Gross motor skills

Sensory integration skills

Appropriate pencil grip

AIM: fluency – speed and legibility