

Grade 4 Parent Writing Tips

- **Stay Positive!** Praise and encouragement can stimulate even a reluctant writer.
- **The Art of Persuasion** - Ask your child to write a letter persuading you for your permission/or for something he wants. He should present his opinion and point of view. Encourage your child to list at least three reasons why these would persuade you.
- **Dear Diary . . .** Encourage your child to write journal entries of experiences he had over weekends, summers, vacations, etc.
- **What Magnificent Vocabulary You Have My Dear!**
 - Promote vocabulary usage through fun activities (MadLibs, Alliteration Games) e.g.: “A my name is Annie, I live in **arid** Arizona and I sell **amazing** apples)
- **Tell Me More!** Ask your child to use rich vocabulary to describe his experiences or an item. Some sample questions might be: What did it look like? How did you feel? How did the item feel? What did it smell like? What were your feelings? What did it remind you of?
- **Compare and Contrast** - Make a chart comparing different options for a rainy day, dinner selections, or book selections, etc. For example; “Today we can either go to a movie or rent one. What are the pros and cons to each option?” or, “For dinner we can have pizza or grill outside. What would be a good option about each?” or “You have the option to start reading Diary of A Wimpy Kid series or Holes. What do you think would be good about starting a series or not?”

- **Details, Details, Details** - When writing or speaking, students should be encouraged to use a claim or topic sentence and then provide three details. Your child can do this orally or in writing. Don't just accept "The school day was fun." Continue asking, "Why was it fun?"
- **Be A Role Model** - Share your writing with your child and allow him to see you write. Sharing your vulnerability and editing can be powerful to students. This shows children that writing is a process.
- **Read, Read, Read!** Good readers become good writers. Their vocabularies are enriched and they are able to see many different styles of writing.
- **Have Fun!** Writing is a great way to communicate with the world and words can be fun and dynamic. Share this positivity and creativity with your child.