

Writing Center Ideas

A writing center can be developed using a small table, chairs and a shelf for supplies. Supply the writing center with a variety of materials, which are changed frequently and reflect the current interests of the children. Writing centers that are efficiently organized and attractively displayed will be utilized more frequently. To encourage children to use writing for real purposes consider including writing materials in all center areas of the classroom.

Writing Center Materials

Writing Tools

- Assorted sizes of crayons
- Assorted sizes of markers
- Assorted sizes of pencils
- Colored chalk
- Colored pencils
- Erasers
- Pens

Writing Enhancers

- Chalk and chalkboards
- Cookie cutter letters (used as stencils)
- Erasable tablet
- Flannel board and felt letters
- Magnetic letters and magnetic surface
- Rubber stamps/ink pads
- Sand/salt tray
- Sandpaper letters
- Stencils
- Typewriter and paper
- Wipe-off boards and markers
- Wooden letters

Writing Materials

- Alphabet cards
- Book making materials
- Braille alphabet cards
- Name cards
- Paper in a variety of sizes, textures and colors (lined and unlined)
- Sign language alphabet cards
- Word-picture cards

Resources

- Clipboards
- Hole punch
- Paper clips
- Picture dictionary
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Stapler
- Stickers
- Tape
- Tracing Paper

Real and Found Materials

- Address books
- Appointment books
- Blank forms
- Blueprints
- Calendars/date books
- Catalogs
- Counter checks
- Coupons
- Envelopes
- Environmental Print/Logos
- Graph paper
- Greeting cards
- Index cards
- Journal books
- "Junk" mail
- Magazines
- Message pads
- Newspapers with large print
- Note pads
- Order forms
- Post cards
- Post-it note pads
- Receipt forms
- "Stamps"
- Stationary
- Store brochures
- Store sale flyers
- Telephone books

Portable Writing Center Ideas

Almost anything can be turned into a portable writing center. Use the ideas below to incorporate writing centers into your daily routine, learning centers, outdoor play, or rest time (use as quiet activities during for children who are not sleeping):

Shoe box, tackle box, tool box, briefcase, backpack, pocket book/purse, bags of any kind (gift, tote, canvas, etc.), lunch box, shoe or jewelry organizers, picnic basket or other baskets, desk organizers, mini drawers, small suitcases, make-up or toiletry bags, and aprons (tool or cooking).

Remember to display the children's writing efforts in the classroom (on the walls, language experience charts and graphs, chart stories, and in class made books). Collecting samples of writing efforts as the year progresses will show children's growth and development.

This list is not exhaustive nor is it intended to endorse specific products or suppliers.

Please refer to GELDS (Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards) for specific standards and indicators.