

Advice to Families

- **Draw attention to print and letters** that you see throughout the day (labels on boxes/cans of food, traffic signs, recipe instructions, etc). This will help children understand that print carries meaning.
- **Read books with your child** that focus on alphabet letters. Encourage your child to trace with their finger, letters in books. Engaging multiple senses (sight, sound, smell, touch, taste) at the same time is great for early learning.
- Use **your child's name** as a place to start teaching your child about letters. Personalized learning is very effective.
- **Model and draw attention to writing that you do** during the day (writing lists, addressing envelopes, etc). When your child sees and hears you writing and talking about the alphabet, she will see the value writing has in our lives.
- **Encourage your child** to experiment with writing letters. Children will use a combination of scribbling, drawing, and writing letters when they are first learning to write.
- Positively **reinforce all writing attempts**. Letter reversals and imperfect letter formation is normal and to be expected for children ages 3-5 years.