

# PARENT CONNECTION

The Promise of Gwinnett. We are the future.

## GROWING READERS AND WRITERS

### Try this when your child asks for help spelling a word.

- \*What chunks do you hear?
- \*What sounds do you hear?
  - \*Say it slowly.
- \*Try writing it two ways and pick the way that looks right.
- \*Think about another word that sounds or looks like that word. Does it follow a similar pattern?



### Make reading part of your daily routine.

- \*Let your child see you read for pleasure.
- \*Help your child find a place in the home that is a favorite reading spot.
  - \*Read aloud daily. Talk about the pictures. Make predictions and see if they come true.
- \*Visit bookstores and libraries. Window shop as you pass a bookstore and imagine the storylines in the titles you see then read to see if your predictions came true.

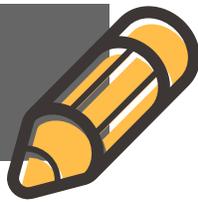
### Encourage storytelling to support writing at home.

**Story telling is the first step to good writing. When your child tells you about the day, try this to encourage your writer.**

"Wow, you really had an interesting day! Let's count the small moments from your day that might make great stories for you to develop in writer's workshop tomorrow."

- \*Let them see you write for pleasure like writing in a journal or a family letter.
- \*Tell stories about your childhood but leave off the ending. Let them imagine an ending.
  - \*Create a family collection of recorded stories based on favorites retold across generations.
- \*Talk about your own childhood memories of school, sharing successes and struggles.
  - \*Have each family member submit three things they want to include in a story then start the story, alternating story tellers and adding everyone's ideas.

## FAQ: HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD EDIT SPELLING ERRORS IN WRITING?



### Should I encourage my child to spell everything correctly?

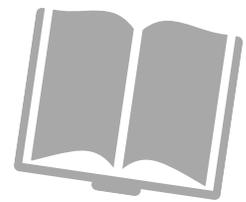
\*Help your child notice patterns and begin to copy those patterns as they write.

\* Encourage your child to just get the ideas on the paper, worrying about revising and editing later. On a draft they often have a mixture of correct and incorrect spelling. Research suggests that the goal should be 90% accuracy in spelling in first drafts by fifth grade.

\*During editing, remind your child to spell correctly grade appropriate sight words that do not follow typical word patterns but occur frequently in writing (though, because, etc).

\*During editing, remind your child to spell words correctly in the text they are using for ideas. If the child recently read books on guppies, words such as dorsal fin and abdomen should be checked by referencing the text.

## FAQ: WHAT IS A LEXILE?



K-5 parents hear about a child's reading progress in terms of Fountas and Pinnell levels, like a second grader reading on a L/M.

However, the Georgia Milestones Assessment System reports Lexile ranges. Here's what's important to know about Lexile Levels and helping children choose books.

\* Lexile Levels are reported in bands that include texts that are a comfortable read and texts that are challenging.

\*Lexile Level is based on the length of the sentences and the frequency of repeated words. What Lexile does not take into account is other things that make a text complex like challenging vocabulary and the age appropriateness of topics and themes.

\*Consider using websites such as <https://www.commonsemmedia.org/> and <http://www.thereadingtub.com> to explore the topics and themes of books.



Wonderopolis encourages curiosity through interactive Q&A. Explore "Wonder Hotspots" and read the "Wonder of the Day."



Kids Doodle has a setting where the color changes when the stylus is lifted. Students can practice their cursive writing then replay like a movie to check letter connections.



Pocket is perfect for research. Students save and organize articles on any device and access them on another device later.



VoiceThread lets you capture your recorded voice and images to create short video clips that can be annotated for explanation. Great for capturing family moments!

## Digital Tools for Mobile Devices