

## **Ideas to support writing at home**

- 1. Give children the opportunity to write about things they know about.**  
Children find it easier to write about things they know about, have seen and experienced. It is difficult to ask a child to write a story or create an information leaflet about the seaside, if they have never been to one!
- 2. Give children plenty of first hand experiences.**  
Do things with children like: visiting a farm, going to buy fruit from the market, washing the car, going to the seaside, going a bus or train.
- 3. Act out experiences or situations (role play).**  
You can encourage children to do this by themselves, with siblings, friends or with an adult. Ideas for role play can include: playing shopkeeper and customer, dressing up as characters from a story, acting out all or part of a short / traditional story, being in a restaurant where one person is the chef/waiter and the other a customer, making a den or cave using cushions and blankets.
- 4. Become one of the characters from a story.**  
One person can be the main character from a story (e.g. Cinderella), they other person can then interview or ask questions based on the story or characters personality or events from the story. Encourage your child to put themselves in the characters place. Ask questions like: Why did you..., Who is..., How did you..., What was..., Where..., When....
- 5. Let children use all of their senses (sight, smell, sound, touch, taste).**  
Encourage your child to use their five senses to describe things. Activities to encourage describing could include: making a fruit salad (describe the different fruits whilst making and eating it), go into your garden in the morning and then at night - how is it different, squash bananas or other food with your hands.