

Preparing to Print!

Give your child many opportunities to scribble with chalk, crayons, markers, pencils.

Trace letters and designs on your child's back in the tub, in the sand at the park, in the steam on the window!

Play with magnetic letters on your fridge or on a cookie sheet.

Make homemade birthday cards, thank you cards and holiday messages for family and friends.

Point out STOP signs and those of favourite stores and restaurants.

Give your child lots of opportunities to play with Lego, playdough, sand, and water, etc. They all help develop the small muscles needed to print!

Teach your child his/her first initial and then make a game of identifying it wherever you go!

Teach your child to print his/her name with an upper case letter at the start and the remaining letters in lower case. Avery Joe Gita

Use whatever your child is interested in to pique his/her interest in letters and logos. For example, if your child likes cars, make a game of identifying car names and logos.

Praise all attempts at colouring, drawing, or printing.

Encourage your child to "tell you about their drawing" and print his/her thoughts neatly on the paper and read it back to him/her.

Hairspray removes most ink from clothing, cooking oil removes most crayon from hard surfaces.

Presented by the York Region Early Literacy Specialists

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