

Using board games to support writing

When children are learning number and letter formations, line placements and spacing concepts to support their writing skills, they need lots of opportunities for practise.

For many of the children who find it difficult to learn and get a handle of these skills, writing becomes a non-preferred activity. Meaning they would rather be doing anything else but practising writing.

There are lots of different ways to integrate writing into play and using board games is just one of them. Children are more engaged when they are having fun and when the writing is meaningful to them.

There is a wide range of traditional board games available as well as many which can be downloaded from educational sites.

Have a look in your games cupboard and think of how you can include writing into the games you have.

Use different writing surfaces and tools to make it more or less formal, depending on your child's interest.

Writing tools: pencils, felt pens, chalk, white board markers, crayons

Writing surfaces: blackboard, whiteboard, blank paper, plain lined paper, exercise book paper specific to your child's grade

Here are some games I like to use:

Pop up Pirates (or similar)

Write the colour of each sword when used

Write a sight word from a list every time a sword is inserted

