

Dear Parents,

If your child is already reading at home for 20–30 minutes at a time, you may be wondering, *Should they also be writing?* The answer is yes, and I am here to help your child both read and write.

Some of you may recognize me as your child’s reading buddy in the video series, [Reading at Home](#). I am Gail Boushey. I am a teacher, one of the co-creators of Daily 5, author of the book *The Daily 5: Fostering Literacy Independence in the Elementary Grades*. If your child is not yet reading for 20–30 minutes at a time, head over to [Reading at Home](#) on The Daily CAFE website and start there. Then come back here to work on writing.

Teachers around the world, and maybe even your child’s teacher, use the practices outlined in the Daily 5 book to successfully teach your child how to be more engaged when reading and writing, and build their attention span for reading and writing from 2 to 40 minutes at a time while they’re in school. I am here to help your child practice these same behaviors at home.

Reading is the most accessible and beneficial learning activity you can provide at home; writing is the second-most important. Making sure your child is engaged in reading and writing for long periods of time each day will ensure that they continue to grow as readers and writers.

On each video in this series, *Writing at Home*, I teach and review the behaviors of writing with your child—the same behaviors they practice in school. I show them how to find a good spot to write, the materials they need to write, and how to choose what to write about. I introduce the behaviors of writing, and then, as the video plays, I write while your child writes. At the end of the time, I review the writing behaviors, talk about increasing writing stamina, and invite children to join me again for another session.

During the time your child and I are writing, you too are writing or doing your own work. Whatever you are doing, it should be quiet and focused, so that your child isn’t distracted.

Please feel free to share this video series with others, so children and families you know will have the opportunity to develop their writing skills.

Whether your child is at home or at school during the pandemic, you can be assured that they are developing and growing their writing skills and ability to write for long periods of time.

Ready to get started? Gather your children and start the first video together.

We can do this!



**A video series to teach
your child how to write by
themselves.**



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