



Writing: First Steps

The very first step is to find an elastic band and simply cut it. You now have a long stretching band. This can be used as a visual aid to s-t-r-e-t-c-h out a word. Say the word very slowly as the band is fully stretched. Lessen the stretch and say the word just a little slower. Then finally hold the band loose and say the word normally. Children really relate to this as a strategy.

For the actual writing process:-

Focus initially on the first letter sound- underline this.

Then focus on the last letter sound- underline this.

You may wish to refer to picture cards or an alphabet strip to help with the visualization of letter sound and name.

Finally, go back to any letters that are sounded out in the middle. Sound these out sequentially.

Usually, after a short time, writing can be in normal letter sequence and no underlining is required. Do not worry about correct spellings; focus on developing phonemic awareness. Correct spelling develops over time and we wish to promote a joy of free expressive writing than being “hung up” on correct, precise spelling. Remember always have fun and celebrate successes!!!!!!