

## Help your child get

## 2 Rea

## WRITE together

eading and writing go together! Both represent spoken language and communicate information. Children become aware that printed letters stand for spoken words as they see print used in their daily lives. They develop a knowledge of the purpose and meaning of reading through writing. As children scribble and draw, they practice eye-hand coordination and exercise the muscles in their fingers and hands. This helps develop the fine motor control they need to hold a pencil or crayon and to write letters and words.

- Writing begins with scribbles and other marks. Encourage this by providing many opportunities to draw and write.
- Children can "sign" their name to drawings, which helps them understand that print represents words. As they practice eye-hand coordination and develop their hand muscles, children can begin to write the letters in their names.
- Talk to your children about what they draw, and write captions or stories together. "Tell me about your drawing and I can write some words." This helps make a connection spoken between printed language.



