

## Five Great Tips to Help your Child Succeed in Creative Writing



- 1. Don't make creative writing a lesson in grammar or spelling.** This is paramount! If the critical voice becomes too noisy, it will drown out the creative voice and your child will stop wanting to write and may resist you. As their spelling improves during spelling class and grammar improves in language class, it *will* also improve in writing class.
- 2. Whatever they write, praise, praise, praise!** You may wince on the inside over the spelling or neatness, but don't let on. They may beam at the fact that they produced only one sentence in the beginning. So, water your little plants with encouragement and watch them grow, grow, grow!
- 3. Let them write about what they love.** Whacky plots, oddball characters, made-up fantasy worlds and all. Many times, a child is processing what they are learning about in life through their characters.
- 4. Keep tools handy that will help them succeed.** Find a fun and inexpensive creative writing curriculum that can help you step by step. Look for something easy to use and will help your child stir up ideas. [Like New Millennium School Books.](#)
- 5. Give them a *reason* to write by starting a Friday night Flashlight Theatre or Writing Club.** Invite grandma and grandpa, neighbors, friends, or families over to listen to the next adventure or chapter your child or group has written. Turn off the lights and shine several flashlights on the reader. Pop popcorn or serve a favorite snack. Let your child read their stories for all to hear. Soon they will be motivated to write more and more, and the other children may want to join in and write as well.