

# Writing activities teach about reading, too



When children learn about writing, they also learn about reading. After all, something has to be written before it can be read!

Encourage your child to try these writing activities to improve both his reading and writing readiness skills:

- **Write letters.** Ask your child to write a letter to a family member. It's okay if his words just look like scribbling to you. Have him tell you what he wrote about, and then you can write it underneath. Ask the family member to write back to your child—he'll love getting mail!
- **Draw pictures.** Ask him what they show. Can he tell stories about them? Write down what he says and read it back to him.



- **Write when *you* write.** Talk about what you're writing. You might say, "I'm writing a shopping list. It will help me remember what I need at the store." Encourage your child to "write" his own shopping list!
- **Create a special writing area.** He'll always know where to find his pencils, crayons and paper so he can start working whenever he likes!