

**DOMAIN 5: COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE, AND LITERACY****SUB-DOMAIN: LITERACY****WRITING****GOAL 61: WRITING - CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE AND USE OF LETTERS AND SYMBOLS.**

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
<p><b>36 to 60 Months</b></p>	<p>Represents ideas and spoken language using drawing, scribbles, symbols, and letters.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Uses horizontal scribbling with breaks or separate marks to represent writing.</li> <li>▪ Creates representational drawings.</li> <li>▪ Uses pictures, symbols, and letters to convey meaning.</li> <li>▪ Knows that alphabet letters are a special category of graphics that can be individually named and written.</li> <li>▪ Uses different marks for writing and drawing.</li> <li>▪ Uses scribbling and letter-like symbols to represent their name.</li> <li>▪ Attempts to copy one or more letters of the alphabet.</li> <li>▪ Labels pictures using letter-like marks.</li> <li>▪ Shows awareness of the difference between own writing and conventional print.</li> <li>▪ Shows awareness of two or more different writing systems (especially appropriate for ELL and bilingual/multilingual children).</li> <li>▪ Uses letters to represent sounds in words.</li> <li>▪ Prints some alphabet letters for given letter names.</li> <li>▪ Recognizes the difference between letters and numbers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide a variety of writing and drawing tools with different kinds of paper (tablets, shopping lists, loose paper, sandpaper, etc.).</li> <li>▪ Model writing by writing and using lists, letters, daily log of classroom activities, and notes stating the words as they are written.</li> <li>▪ Offer to write the child's dictated words to label a drawing or tell a story.</li> <li>▪ Encourage the use of creative spelling to label pictures, write name, and write notes to family and community members.</li> <li>▪ Use the letters of the alphabet as they come up in real life situations.</li> <li>▪ Call attention to names of children that begin with the same alphabet letter.</li> <li>▪ Guide the child in writing his or her own name.</li> <li>▪ Offer multiple tools for writing, including markers, chalk, paint brushes, finger paints, crayons, pencils and pens, and shaving cream or play dough.</li> <li>▪ Give child a personal journal to write their name and draw pictures.</li> <li>▪ Provide opportunities for child to write letters, lists, invitations, cards, and notes.</li> <li>▪ Serve as the "scribe" (writer) for a child's dictated story, and then have child draw the illustrations to go with text.</li> <li>▪ Encourage children to describe their artwork and label it with child's dictation.</li> </ul>

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