

Introduction

The **Get Set** activity books are full of fun activities that help you to reinforce at home the learning that your child is doing at school.

This activity book is about **Writing Words**. It focuses on developing your child's fine motor skills for writing and their understanding of the shapes and movements that are required to write different letters to form words, as well as their ability to encode words to begin to spell. The book falls within the curriculum area of Literacy in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework. This activity book is supported by four other activity books for Literacy: **Reading and Rhyme**, **Letter Sounds**, **Phonics** and **Writing Letters**.

It is recommended that your child starts this activity book in Term 2 of the Reception year, or when your child is already quite confident in their letter formation, completing one or two pages at a time over the remainder of the year. They should complete pages 4 to 9 in Term 2 and pages 10 to 33 in Term 3. As your child works through the book, the tasks will gradually become more challenging, requiring more reading and writing skills, helping to prepare your child for the more formal style of learning that begins in Key Stage 1.

It is worth remembering, however, that children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates, especially at this young age, and you may prefer to work through the books at your child's own pace. The activity books may also be suitable for older or younger children, depending on ability.

Before beginning each activity, read the instructions aloud to your child. Discuss what they can see in the pictures and what they have to do to complete the activity. When supporting your child to write words, the emphasis should be on starting each letter in the correct place and remembering the movements, rather than on size or neatness. It is natural at this age for your child to experiment with and move between a variety of different pencil grips. Try to model and encourage them to hold the pencil between thumb and forefinger, resting it on the third finger, but don't expect them to hold the pencil this way every time.

At the back of the book you will find **Notes for parents and carers**, with helpful guidance relating to each page of the activity book. For each topic, there is a **Teaching tip**, which explains how best to support your child as they complete the activities, **Key vocabulary**, for you to model and encourage your child to use themselves, and a practical **Extension activity**, for you to explore the topic further with your child in a real-life context.

These notes help you to get the most out of the activity books and to support and enhance your child's learning. When working through the activities, don't worry too much about your child 'getting it right'. The emphasis should instead be on 'having a go' and taking the time to enjoy exploring new topics and ideas together.

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