



Stages of Writing

Stage	Characteristics	Sample
<p><u>Pictures:</u> Uses drawing to stand for writing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working out the relationship between drawing and writing Sees drawing/writing as communication of specific and purposeful message Participation in writing via drawing; reads drawings as if there is writing on them Writes about life experiences and environment 	 <p>(I like trees.)</p>
<p><u>Approximation:</u> Uses scribbles, but intends it as writing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiments with marks on the paper and often scribble from left to right Understands writing and drawing are different Scribbles resemble writing 	 <p>(I like trees.)</p>
<p><u>Emergent Writing:</u> Uses letter-like forms or letter strings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aware that speech can be written down and that written message remains constant Understands left to right organization of print and experiments with writing letters and words Realizes that print contains a constant message Rehearses for writing by drawing 	<p>B mdn VWo</p>
<p><u>Early Writing:</u> Uses random letters and initial consonants and then transitions to using both initial and final consonants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses initial consonants and final consonants Relies heavily on most obvious sounds of the word Words are separated by spaces 	<p>I to h (I like to color.)</p> <p>I h a p c (I have a pretty cat.)</p> <p>I pa en mi ft yrt. (I play in my front yard.)</p>
<p><u>Transitional Writing:</u> Use of temporary spelling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vowel sounds appear Syllables are represented Beginning sense of sentence 	<p>My favrrit food is appls and makrone. (My favorite food is apples and macaroni.)</p>
<p><u>Conventional Writing:</u> Audience and purpose for writing becomes important</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attention to the mechanics of writing Uses a range of strategies for planning, revising, and publishing own text Matches illustrations to text Multiple sentences and many words have correct spelling 	<p>Wen I was on vacashon it was fun to play weth Nicole. She is my baby sister. She is one year old. She is a verry nice sister becsss it chers you up weth a baby sister around.</p>