



Writing

(with examples based on *NEL K2 English Language Big Book 12*
– *Fix it, Ah Teck!*)

Writing

Learning to compose and write messages is not a matter of copying. Writing single words is relatively easy but it is more challenging to construct a sentence. Children have to pay attention to details like holding the pencil, directionality and forming letters, while keeping in mind the whole message. It requires juggling the sounds, letters and meaning while not losing sight of the whole message to be communicated.

Tips for teachers:

- Discuss ideas/ experiences with the children.
- Help the children use the language orally before asking them to use it in writing.
- Encourage the children to be creative and vary their use of language.
- If some children want to draw first and then write, let them.
- Provide encouraging and positive responses.
- Avoid being critical of your children's efforts at writing.
- Do not use a red pen to edit children's work.

Try using this follow-up activity after you have conducted reading activities with the children, for the ***NEL K2 English Language Big Book 12: Fix it, Ah Teck!***

Show the children page 10 of the Big Book. Tell them they are going to make a giant Get Well Card for Uncle Ah Teck. Ask the children what they want to tell him and write the sentences out on the butcher paper. After editing the sentences with the children, transfer the sentences onto a fresh sheet and have the children decorate it. Display the 'card' on the wall.

Also try using this follow-up activity after you have conducted reading activities with the children, for the ***NEL K2 English Language Big Book 12: Fix It, Ah Teck! (Individual Writing)***

Have the children write their own get well messages to a friend or a family member.

For children who are unable to begin writing, try getting them to:

- draw a picture and then write about it with the teacher's help.
- do a group story with the teacher where they talk and the teacher writes.