

Activities for reading and writing sentences

1. Lego Sentence Building

Cut the masking tape to fit each block, and then use a marker to write one word per block.

You may want to color-code your words to start introducing the parts of speech as well. Use yellow blocks to write all your nouns, write verbs on the blue Legos. The words "a" and "the" (articles) can be written on green, while the other adjectives (descriptive words) can be written on red blocks. Choose nouns that your child will recognize and be excited to use. If you have an animal lover, you might use several types of animals (dog, monkey, horse). You can also use names of family members.



Once you have your blocks ready, it's time to build sentences with Legos. You will need to tell your child which color block they need to use as they build their sentence.

2. Unscramble a sentence

Write a sentence on a paper strip and then cut across all spaces so that each word is on a separate piece of paper. Mix the pieces of paper up and leave them in front of children so they need to read each word and decide where it could fit in the sentence.

Once they become confident in unscrambling a sentence, you could mix up two or three sentences at the same time, using different colour for each of them.



3. Sentence sticks

Using lollipop or craft sticks make learning more fun. These sentence sticks work great to teach the parts of a sentence/speech: verbs, nouns, adjectives etc. Use it to make silly sentences or real sentences too!

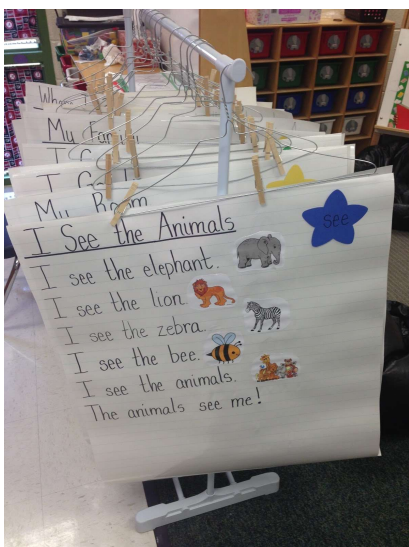


Simply use a marker to write one word per stick.

This Build a Sentence Activity has two great learning applications: first, sentence structure and second, reading. Both are important for children to master, and this combines them in to one fun puzzle game.

4. Sentences with high frequency words

Choose a high frequency word and use it in your sentences several times. Keep the structure of the sentences the same so the children can learn how to read it on the spot and memorise spellings of focus words.



5. Cups sentence building

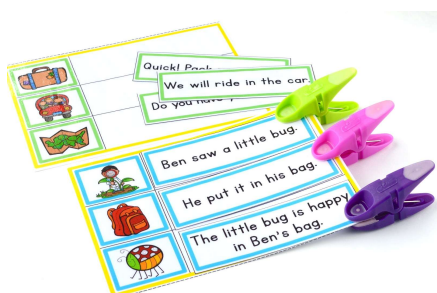
Creating this activity is super simple. Start with a handful of paper cups. You can use multi-coloured, plain white or even plastic cups. Write the words to a sentence on cups, one word per cup. Mix the cups out of order and stack them. Have children to take a stack and line up the cups in order to build a sentence. They will probably have to try multiple times, but that's where all of the great reading practice comes in. Once they've solved that sentence, they can mix and re-stack the cups. Then move on to the next stack.



Your child have to re-read the sentence each time they re-organize the cups. That means they could read the sentence at 4-5 times before they get it in the correct order. If you included one new high frequency word they had learned it by the time they finished that puzzle.

6. Match sentences with pictures

Cut out or draw any three objects and write a simple sentence about each of them. Put the pictures and sentences into two separate piles and mix them up. Children need to read the sentences and match them with the pictures.



Once they have completed the activity, you can ask children to write their own sentence about each of the pictures.

7. Paper chain sentences

Use colored strips and write a simple sentence, e.g: The dog barked. Each word has its own colored strip and children have to turn it into a chain. At the beginning it is a pretty small chain, so you can ask them what more they could tell you about this. Then add another coloured strip, e.g. an adjective to describe the dog, such as "The *puny* dog barked," and then link it in. (You will have to tear apart, add it in, then staple/glue again.)



You can add more and more words, making your sentence (and chain) as long as you can, while still having the sentence make sense.

8. Finish / complete a sentence

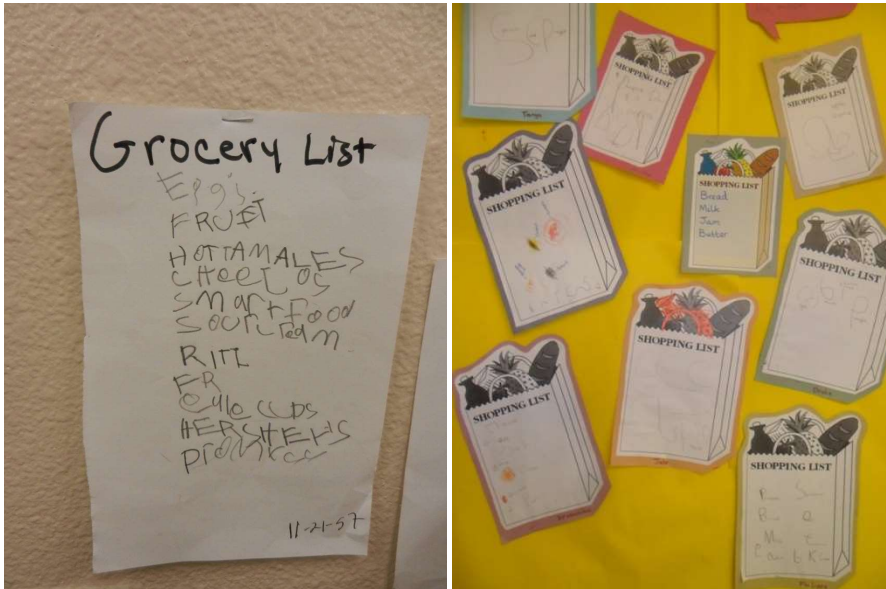
Children need to complete a sentence with the last word. At the beginning, keep the structure of your sentences similar and draw a line where the last word should be written. You could draw a picture next to each sentence giving children a clue about the word they need to write. Make the children copy completed sentences in their best handwriting.



Once children are confident with filling in a single blank in each of the sentences, you could challenge them and leave two gaps to complete.

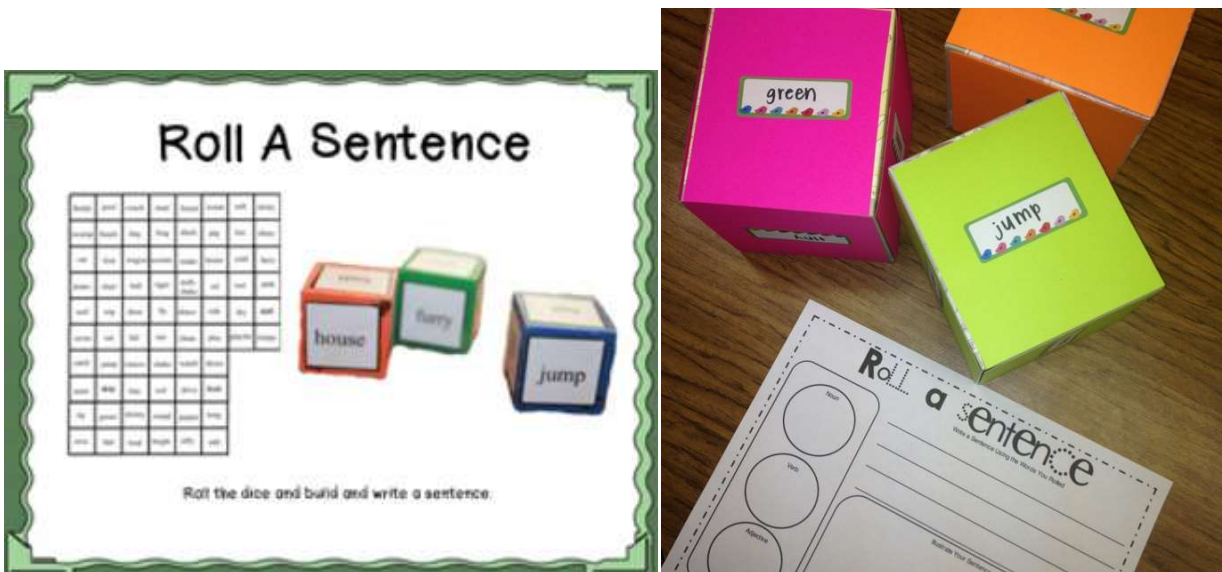
9. Shopping list

Make your child write a weekly grocery shopping list. They will love taking it to the shop, reading out the items from the list and crossing out products that have been bought.



10. Roll a Sentence

It is a writing game using dice with words on them. The game has a noun dice, a verb dice, and a descriptive word dice. To play the game, you pick one dice of each type (the different types of word dice are different colors), so children will get a noun, verb, and descriptive word. Children will roll 3 dices at the same time and read words of the top of each of them. Then, they will need to arrange them in a sentence and write their sentence down.



To make your dices, draw a cube net on a coloured paper, when write a word in each square, cut your cube net out, fold and glue the sides together.

Phonics activities
to do at home with
your child

