

6 Publishing

The next step in the writing process is publishing. Publishing means “going public”—sharing and celebrating final, published works with an audience. Depending on the audience and purpose for the writing, your child may choose to publish his or her work. Written work may be published in a variety of forms such as a class book, newsletter, school website, contest submission, or performance.

You can help your child by

- sharing experiences that may be interesting writing topics
- commenting on what you like about your child’s writing
- encouraging your child to talk about his or her ideas
- being a listener
- respecting your child’s ability to make choices
- resisting the temptation to “take over”

“Good writing needs what readers’ eyes expect.”

~ Nancy Atwell



This pamphlet is part of a series to inform parents about the Nova Scotia Department of Education Public School Program for students in grades 3–6.

For more information, contact your child’s teacher.

Let's talk about ...

The Writing Process Grades 3–6



The Atlantic Canada English language arts curriculum is shaped by a vision of enabling and encouraging students to become reflective, articulate, literate individuals who use language successfully for learning and communicating in personal and public contexts.

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The Writing Process Grades 3–6

Learning to write is a process that involves thinking and composing, considering audience and purpose, choosing a form, and using the conventions of written language. Writing is also a tool for learning—a means of gaining insight, developing ideas, and solving problems. Students learn the process of writing gradually. With practice they continually expand their repertoire of concepts, skills, and strategies.

1 Pre-Writing

In the pre-writing stage your child will

- establish a purpose
- select and/or research a topic
- identify the audience
- decide what form of writing to use
- think, talk, and make notes

2 Drafting

In the drafting stage your child will

- create an initial draft
- focus mostly on recording his or her ideas
- begin to shape sentences and paragraphs
- consider images that will support the meaning

3 Revising

In the revising stage your child will

- bring topics and ideas into sharper focus
- add details and images
- rework beginnings, middles, and endings
- develop characters and ideas
- play with the order of ideas and information
- consider what to add, remove, or change

4 Editing

In the editing stage your child will

- fine tune the writing for clarity of expression and meaning
- work on sentence structure, paragraphing, and word use
- delete generalizations and unnecessary words
- correct errors in grammar
- cut or replace overused words

5 Proofreading

In the proofreading stage your child will

- check for and correct errors of capitalization, punctuation, and spelling
- do a final check of his or her work

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