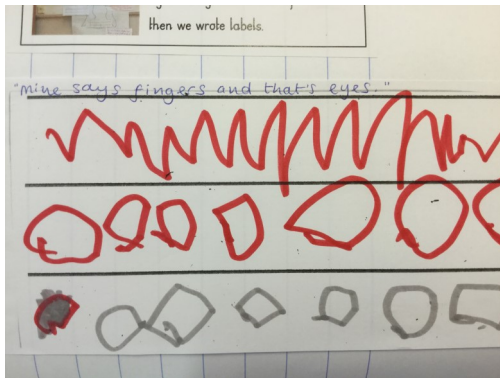


Supporting Your Child to Write at Home

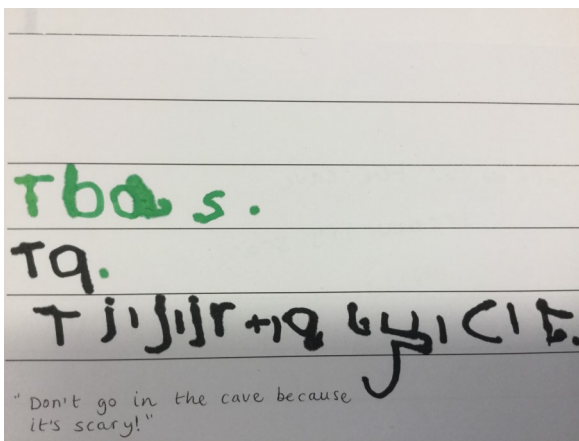
There are a wide range of writing abilities in Reception. Here are four examples:

1.



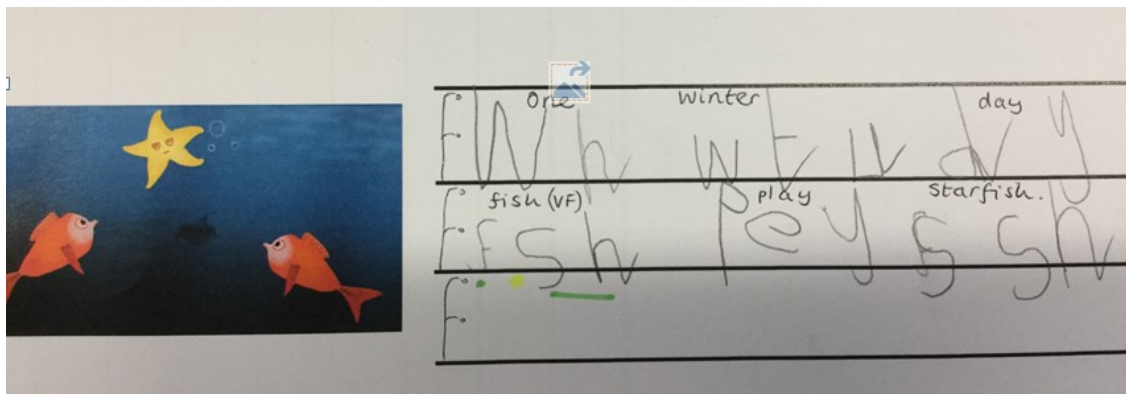
Giving meaning to their marks as they imitate the flow of writing.

2.



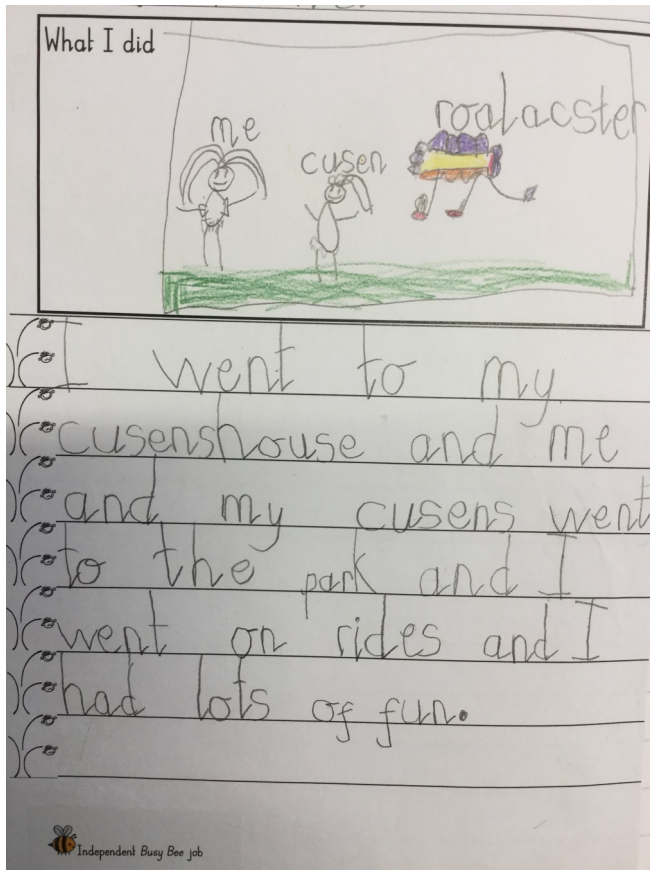
Beginning to write letters and letter-like formations. Giving meaning to what they are writing

3.



Hearing and writing some sounds in words, for example 'w' in one and 'w-t-u' in winter. Starting to form sentences.

4.



Now hearing and writing many more sounds in words, using phonics. Correctly spelling some Tricky words (common irregular words that have to be learnt by sight, not using phonics) such as the, to and my. Leaving spaces between words.

When writing with your child

- Ask them to say the words they want to write
- Then focus on the first word. Ask them to say it slowly. What sounds can they hear in the word? They might just be able to tell you the first sound— that's ok. Remind them to use their bodies to break the word down like we do at school.
- Encourage them to write the sounds they can hear. Finding the letter sound on the alphabet/ sound mat before writing can help.

In the early stages of writing it is fine to not write every sound in a word. Words will also not necessarily be spelt correctly, for example in Number 4 above, cousin is spelt 'cusen'. The child has heard and written the sounds and the word can be understood.

It is important for a child to try to hear the sounds themselves and write using these strategies with a little guidance from the adult.