

Writing Workshop

MRS CONROY

THURSDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2025

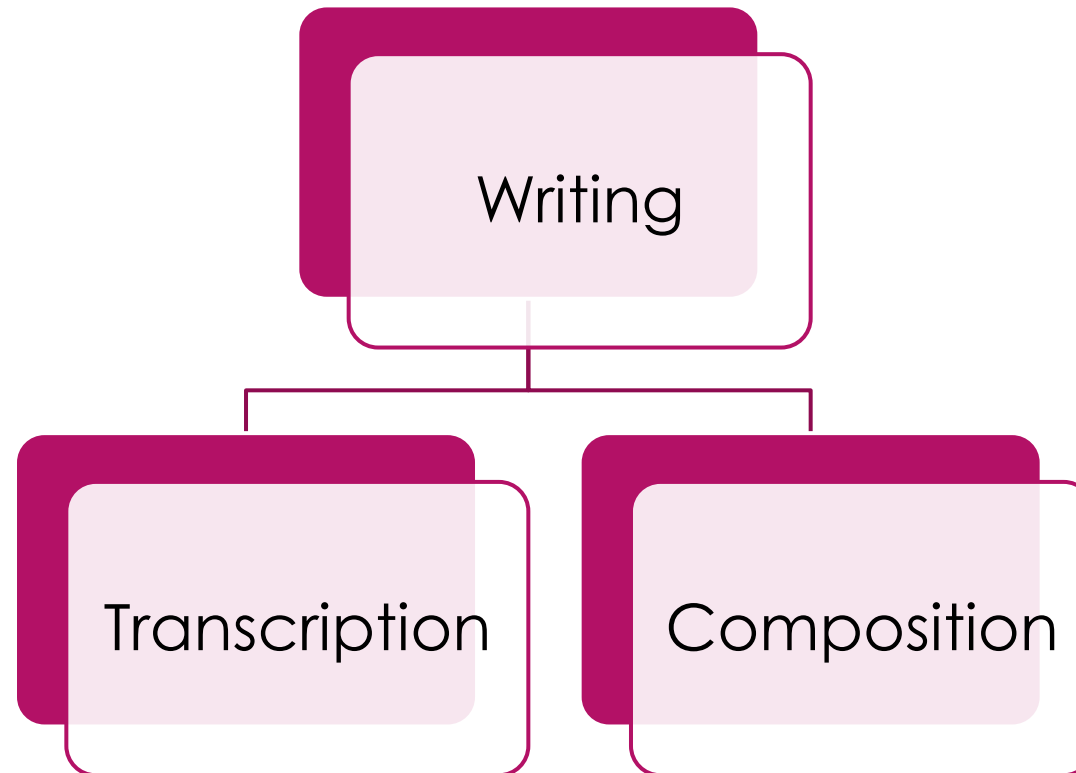
Outcomes of this workshop

- ▶ How we teach writing at St Mary's
- ▶ St Mary's Big Year of Writing
- ▶ What you can do to support at home

Simple model of writing

Transcription:

- Handwriting
- Spelling



Composition:

- Ideas
- Vocabulary and language
- Grammar
- Sentence structure
- Punctuation
- Text and genre understanding

How we teach TRANSCRIPTION at St Mary's

Little Wandle phonics scheme Reception & Year 1

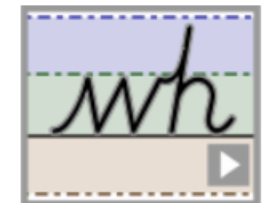


Spelling Seeds and statutory spellings



Handwriting – continuous cursive joined writing style

Teach Handwriting 



New Curriculum Spelling Lists Years 1 and 2

the
a
do
to
today
of
said
says
your
they
be
he
me
she
we
no

come
some
one
once
ask
friend
school
put
are
were
was
is
his
has
I
you

go
so
by
my
here
there
where
love
push
pull
full
house
our
door
poor
find

mind
floor
because
kind
behind
whole
any
child
wild
most
both
children
climb
only
old
many

clothes
cold
gold
hold
told
every
great
break
steak
busy
people
pretty
beautiful
after
fast
last

past
father
class
water
again
grass
pass
plant
path
bath
hour
move
prove
half
money
improve

sugar
could
would
sure
eye
should
who
Mr
Mrs
parents
Christmas
everybody
even

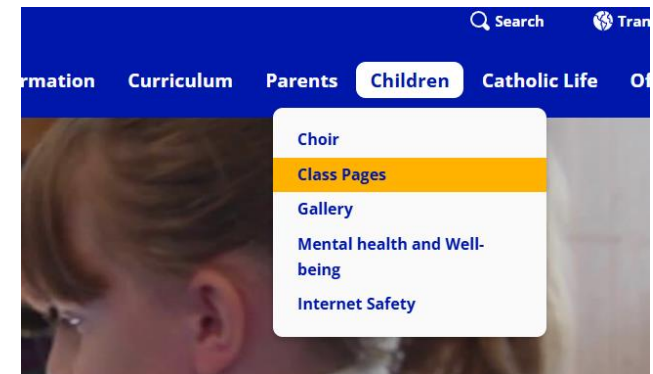
Year 3 and 4 Statutory Spellings

accident	calendar	eight	guide	mention	possession	straight
accidentally	caught	eighth	heard	minute	possible	strange
actual	centre	enough	heart	natural	potatoes	strength
actually	century	exercise	height	naughty	pressure	suppose
address	certain	experience	history	notice	probably	surprise
although	circle	experiment	imagine	occasion	promise	therefore
answer	complete	extreme	important	occasionally	purpose	though
appear	consider	famous	increase	often	quarter	thought
arrive	continue	favourite	interest	opposite	question	through
believe	decide	February	island	ordinary	recent	various
bicycle	describe	forward	knowledge	particular	regular	weight
breath	different	forwards	learn	peculiar	reign	woman
breathe	difficult	fruit	length	perhaps	remember	women
build	disappear	grammar	library	popular	sentence	
busy	early	group	material	position	separate	
business	earth	guard	medicine	possess	special	

Year 5 and 6 Statutory Spellings

accommodate	category	determined	foreign	lightning	profession	sincerely
accompany	cemetery	develop	forty	marvellous	programme	soldier
according	committee	dictionary	frequently	mischievous	pronunciation	stomach
achieve	communicate	disastrous	government	muscle	queue	sufficient
aggressive	community	embarrass	guarantee	necessary	recognise	suggest
amateur	competition	environment	harass	neighbour	recommend	symbol
ancient	conscience	equip	hindrance	nuisance	relevant	system
apparent	conscious	equipped	identity	occupy	restaurant	temperature
appreciate	controversy	equipment	immediate	occur	rhyme	thorough
attached	convenience	especially	immediately	opportunity	rhythm	twelfth
available	correspond	exaggerate	individual	parliament	sacrifice	variety
average	criticise	excellent	interfere	persuade	secretary	vegetable
awkward	curiosity	existence	interrupt	physical	shoulder	vehicle
bargain	definite	explanation	language	prejudice	signature	yacht
bruise	desperate	familiar	leisure	privilege	sincere	

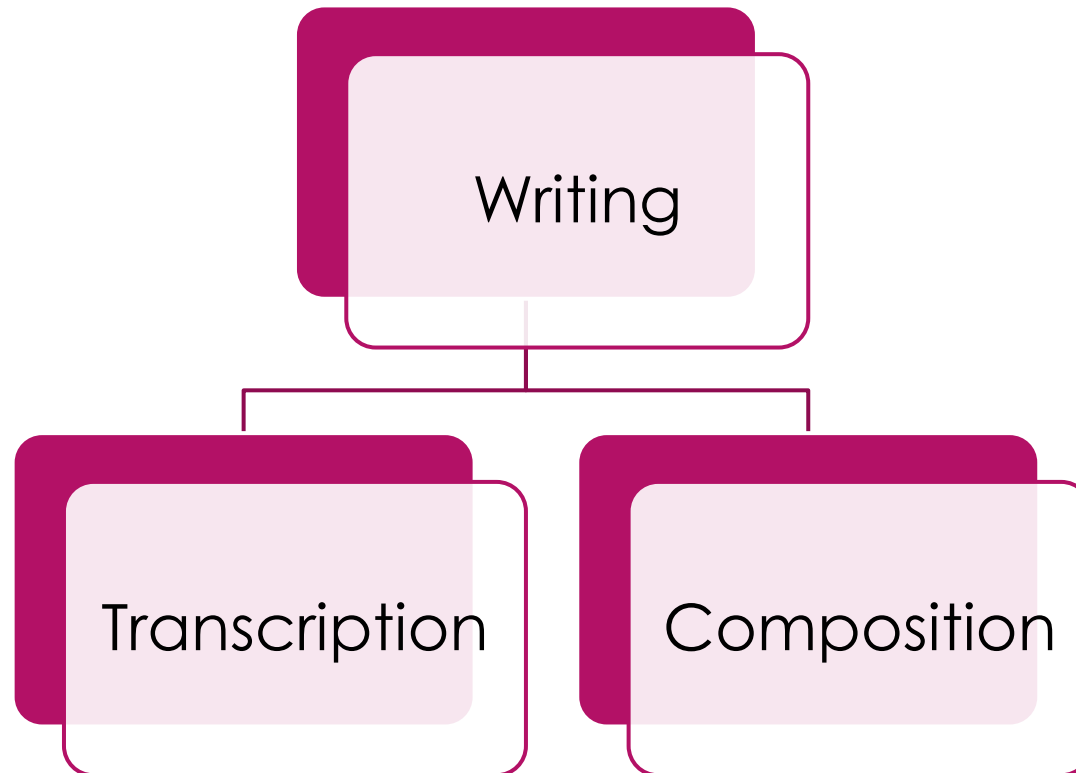
All of this can be found on the class pages of the school website:



How we teach COMPOSITION at St Mary's

Transcription:

- Handwriting
- Spelling



Composition:

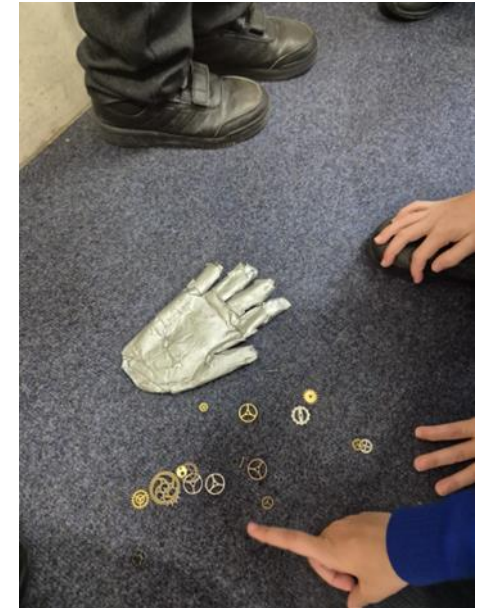
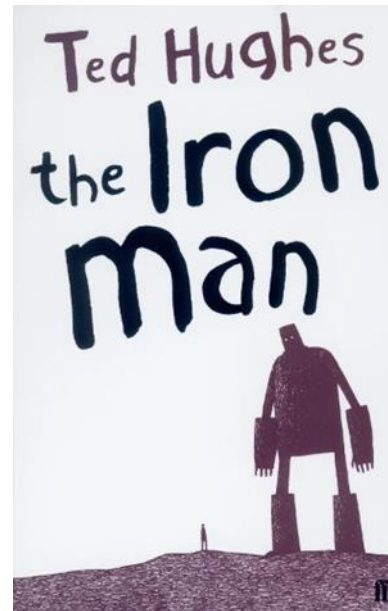
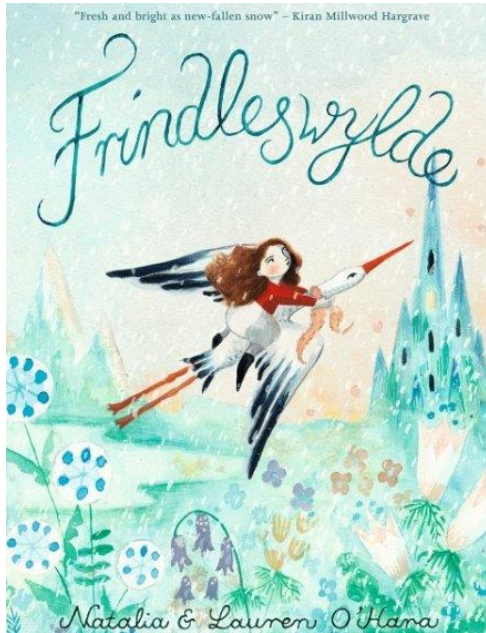
- Ideas
- Vocabulary and language
- Grammar
- Sentence structure
- Punctuation
- Text and genre understanding

Literacy Tree



- ▶ Literacy Tree is a book-based approach to teaching writing
- ▶ Every unit is based on a high quality, often classic piece of children's literature
- ▶ Provides complete coverage of all National Curriculum expectations for writing composition, grammar, punctuation and vocabulary.
- ▶ Outcome is a variety of shorter, longer and extended writing covering a range of genres, with a sharp focus on audience and purpose.
- ▶ Daily 1-hour sessions
- ▶ Blocks of work last between 2 – 4 weeks.

Hook activities



5 stages of the writing process for extended writing



1. Planning



2. Drafting



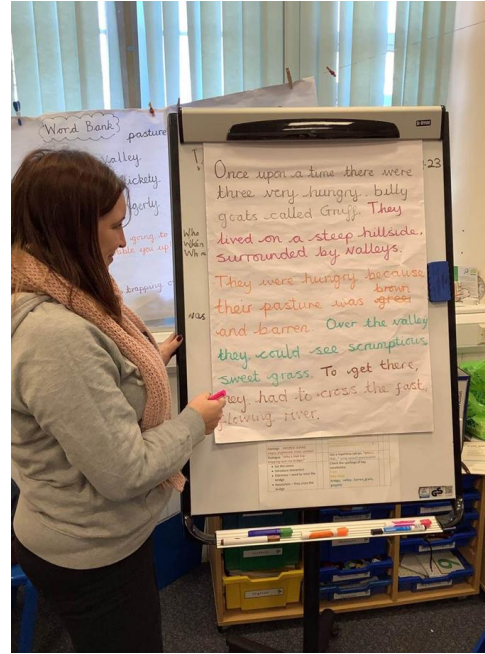
3. Revising



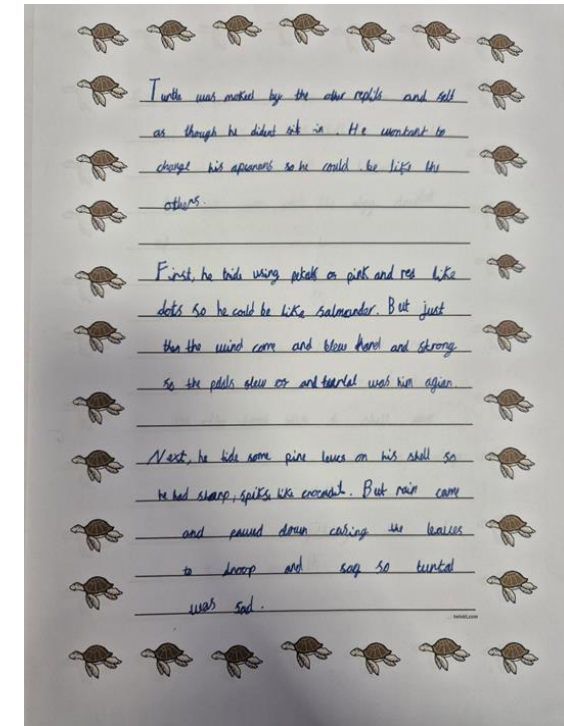
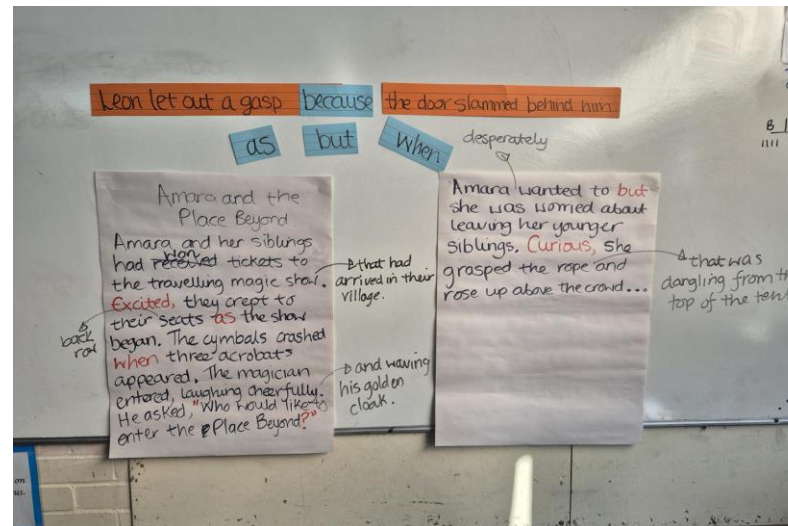
4. Editing



5. Publishing



Focus is on the writing process over the final outcome.



St Mary's Big Year of Writing

St Mary's Big Year of Reading



2024-25



St Mary's Big Year of Writing



2025-26

National Poetry Day



A fast twisty slide
very steep and bumpy
feeling scared, but excited
what an amazing day!

Walking around the red net
wondered that I could fall
trying my hardest to be brave
what an exciting day!

Climbing up the walls
Then sliding down the slide
travelling fast to the ground
What an amazing day.



Based on
Windsor
Adventure
Playground trip.

Other upcoming events...



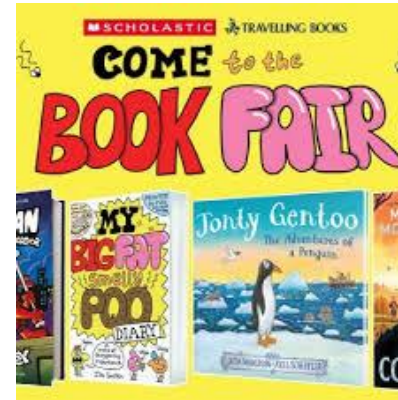
- ▶ A competition to write a story in 500 words or less.
- ▶ Two age categories: 5-7 and 8-11 year-olds.
- ▶ Spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked – just the creativity.
- ▶ Teachers will support with the writing of the story in school.
- ▶ Parents – you will be asked to support the children with typing up their story over October half term and emailing it back to me by Monday 3rd November. I will then upload and submit the stories.
- ▶ 50 finalists will be invited to a grand final at **Windsor Castle** in February 2026, hosted by **Her Majesty The Queen**. Each winner will also see their story be read aloud by a celebrity on TV, which will be shown as part of a special 500 Words programme with **The One Show** in early March. They receive books for their school, have their story published and illustrated by a famous illustrator.



Other upcoming events...



Rotary **YOUNG WRITER** COMPETITION



How you can help at home

Research suggests that children's achievement is influenced 80% by family and community and 20% by schools.



How you can help at home

Encourage your children to engage with activities we send home for the writing journals.

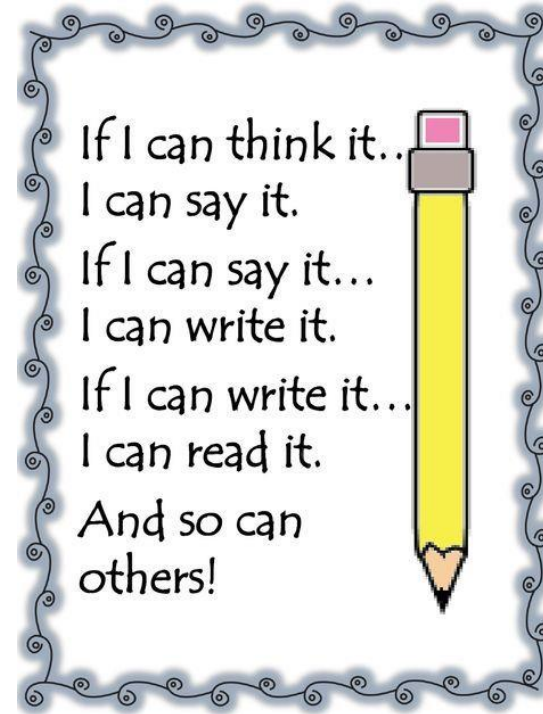
Ask them to share their work with you and celebrate what they have done.

Encourage them to record any other writing they feel inspired about – it doesn't have to be school-directed.



How you can help at home

Children can only write
about what they know,
in language that is
known.



How you can help at home



Discussing and exploring things of interest may inspire children to want to write.



Home writing ideas – writing about things they know

Write a book/film review/recount for something you have read/watched together recently.

Write a diary or journal about a fabulous day, or just their thoughts or feelings about any day.

Create an instruction manual for something they've done e.g. baking a cake, playing a game, working a device.

Other home writing ideas

Write a poem - the motivation can be performing their piece once it's finished!

Describe a picture in words - a photo of family members, a picture in a magazine or a painting on the wall – ask your child to describe it in words. They could even write a story based on the image.

Write letters – to an MP, a pen pal, friends or family

Write grocery lists

Write jokes and riddles

Write birthday cards/thank you cards

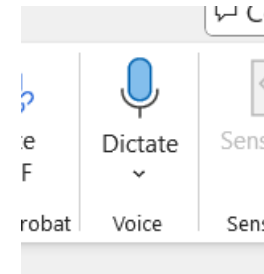
Use technology – children can record themselves and produce speech to text

Apps like 'Clips', 'Stop Motion' – create short stories with writing, speech, pictures

Pick a word of the week – can they use it in their writing. The more peculiar the word, the funnier this activity can be.

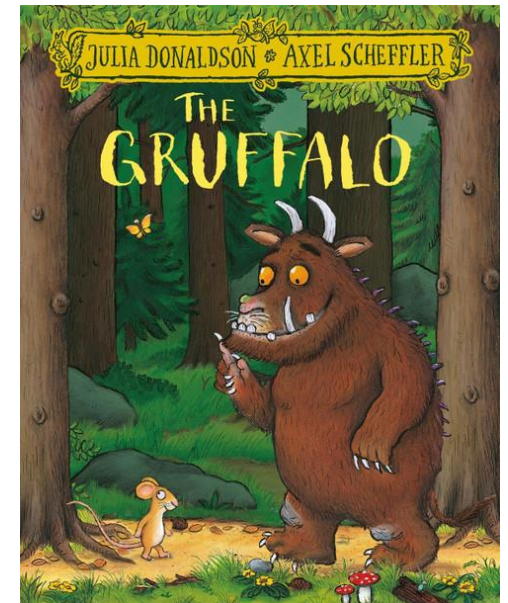
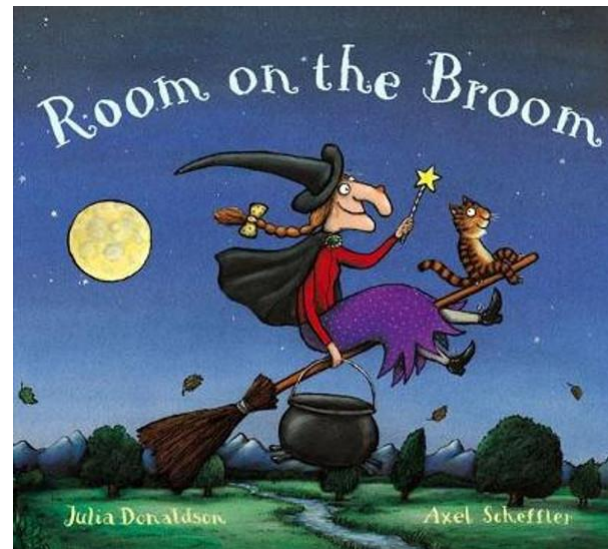
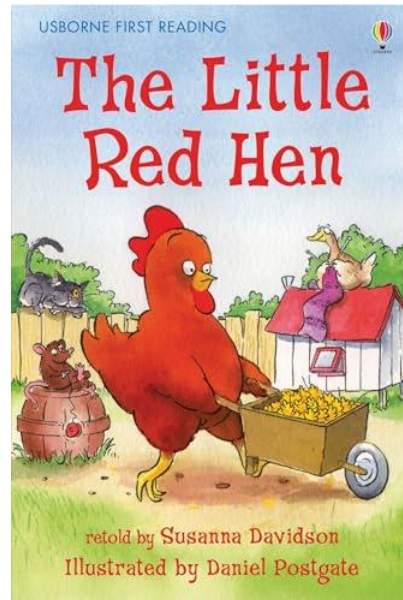
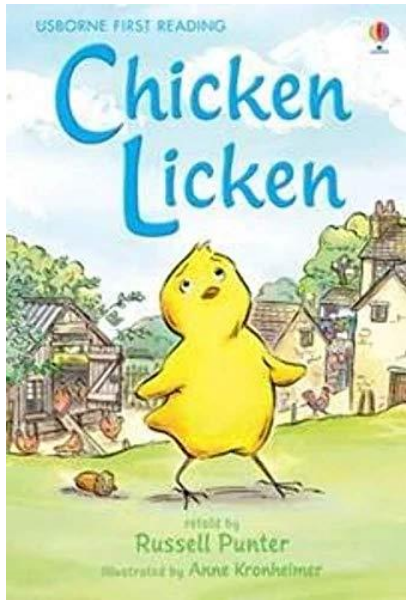
Encourage reading! – regular reading creates stronger writers

Adults reading books that are outside of a child's reading ability can create strong writing skills even if a child is a reluctant reader or lacks stamina for longer stories.



If a child can say it, they can write it!

Repetitive stories encourage children to join in and retell stories orally. They help to understand story structure.



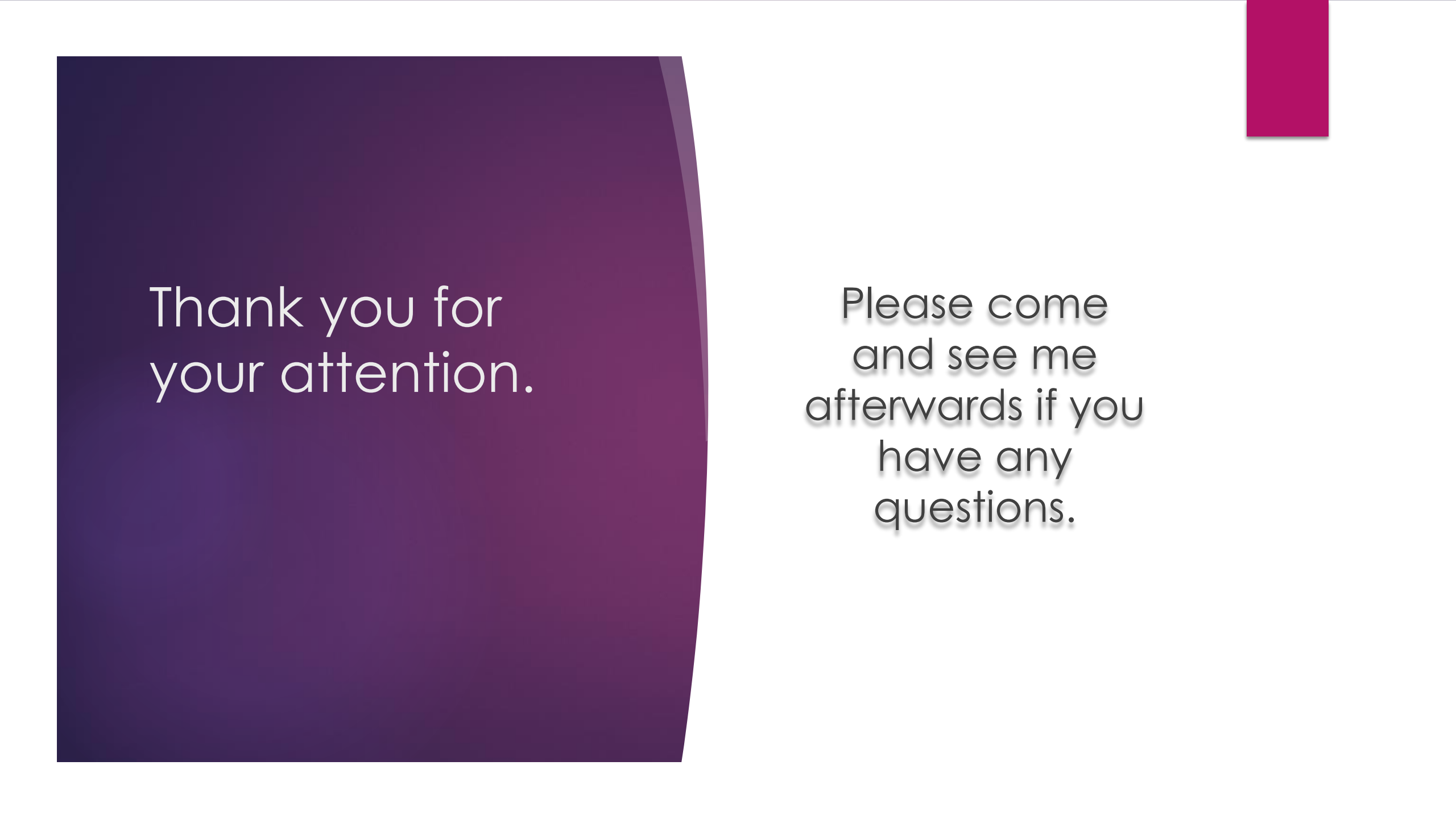
When writing, encourage children to:

Orally rehearse a sentence **BEFORE** they write it.



Read aloud their work **AFTER** they have written it.





Thank you for
your attention.

Please come
and see me
afterwards if you
have any
questions.