

Writing activities enhance reading comprehension



Encourage your child to use the books he is reading as inspiration for writing! He will get his creative juices flowing while he also builds reading comprehension, or understanding, and analysis skills.

He can:

- **Write his own sequel.** What happens after the last page in your child's favorite book? Encourage him to write one more chapter. He might wrap up the story or perhaps send the characters on another adventure. He could also write a *prequel*—a chapter that comes before the book starts.
 - **Write a letter to the author.** Have your child write a review in the form of a letter to the author. What did he like or dislike about the story? What would he have changed? Are there things that he would still like to know?
- **Keep a character diary.** Have your child imagine that he's a character in the story who keeps a diary. Have him write diary entries about several of the main events that happen throughout the course of the book. How would that character react to each event? (He can also try writing from the point of view of a minor character to encourage even further character analysis.)

