

Make a Writing Box

A homemade, portable writing box can help make it fun for your child to express herself through spontaneous writing and drawing.

What You Need

- large cereal box
- construction paper
- glue
- scissors
- markers and crayons
- variety of decorating items (glitter, stickers, and so on)
- sturdy string or yarn
- paper and pencils

What You Do

- To create a writing suitcase, help your child cover a cereal box with construction paper. Encourage her to use crayons and other art supplies to decorate it.
- Cut a small hole near the top of two narrow sides of the box. Then insert the ends of a long piece of string or yarn into the holes and tie them into knots to create a shoulder strap.
- Set the "suitcase" aside and discuss the types of things your child would like to write about or draw. Then encourage her to use the writing materials to form letters and spell in her own way.
- Listen to your child talk about her work. Then help her place the paper, pencils, crayons, and markers into her suitcase. She will be able to use the materials to record stories wherever she goes!