

The Writing Spot

Sequencing Assignments

In *Teaching the Universe of Discourse*, James Moffett advised teachers to progress from basic skills and forms to more academic writing. *The Writing Spot Big Book* and *Buddy Book* follow this organizational plan. This sequence helps students build writing skills and confidence.

Sections

Materials in *The Writing Spot*

The Process of Writing

Spot writes.
Writers look and think to find ideas.
Writers talk and listen to get information.
Writers read to learn.
Writers write to share ideas.
Writers share to explain and entertain.

The Forms of Writing

We send notes and cards.
We make lists
We write in journals.
We tell and write stories.
We make signs and labels.

The Tools of Learning

We learn together.
We use computers to write.

Word Study/Phonics

Writers explore letters, sounds, and words.
Writers use letters to make words.
Writers put words together in sentences.
Alligator to Zipper-Dee-Do!

Almanac/Theme Pages

Happy Birthday to you!
I feel . . .
Let's be friends.
Eat right and exercise.
Visit our community.
What's the weather?
Name the colors.
Listen to the rhyme.
Once upon a time . . .

The Writing Spot

Yearlong Timetable

This suggested yearlong timetable presents one possible sequence of writing and language skills units based on a five-days-per-week class. The start of the year focuses on simple writing tasks, pairing them with skills activities. As the year progresses and students gain increasing fluency, they have more time and freedom to develop their writing projects.

First Quarter (9 Weeks)

Week	The Writing Spot Big Book and Buddy Book (BB)
1–2	Getting-Started Activities Spot writes. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Steps in the Process BB 2–3
3–4	Writers look and think to find ideas. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Letters and Words BB 4–5 We make signs and labels. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Direction-Word Labels BB 24–26 Happy Birthday to you! <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Dates BB 58–59
5–6	Writers talk and listen to get information. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Letter Sounds BB 6–7 We make signs and labels. (Cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Direction-Word Labels (Cont.) BB 24–26 What's the weather? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Weather Words BB 70–71
7–8	Writers write to share ideas. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Addresses, Words BB 10–11 We make lists. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Word Lists BB 18–19 Let's be friends. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Capital Letters/Names BB 62–63
9	Writers write to share ideas. (Cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Addresses, Words (Cont.) BB 10–11 We make lists. (Cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Skills:</i> Word Lists (Cont.) BB 18–19

Second Quarter (9 Weeks)

Week	The Writing Spot Big Book and Buddy Book (BB)
1–2	<p>Writers explore letters, sounds, and words.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Phonics: Letter Sounds and Words BB 34–39 <p>We send notes and cards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Names BB 16–17 <p>I feel . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Feeling Words BB 60–61
3–4	<p>Writers use letters to make words.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Lists, Labels BB 40–47 <p>We send notes and cards. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Names (Cont.) BB 16–17 <p>I feel . . . (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Feeling Words (Cont.) BB 60–61
5–6	<p>Writers use letters to make words. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Lists, Labels (Cont.) BB 40–47 <p>We use computers to write.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Letters and Words BB 28–29 <p>Eat right and exercise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Initial Sounds BB 64–65
7–8	<p>Writers use letters to make words. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Lists, Labels (Cont.) BB 40–47 <p>We use computers to write. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Letters and Words (Cont.) BB 28–29 <p>Eat right and exercise. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Initial Sounds (Cont.) BB 64–65
9	<p>Writers share to explain and entertain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Names and Words in Stories (Cont.) BB 12–14 <p>We learn together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Comparison Words BB 30–32

Third Quarter (9 Weeks)

Week	The Writing Spot Big Book and Buddy Book (BB)
1–2	<p>Writers put words together in sentences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Stories, Notes, Reports BB 48–53 <p>We write in journals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Conventions of Print BB 20–21 <p>Name the colors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Color Words BB 72–73
3–4	<p>Writers put words together in sentences. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Stories, Notes, Reports (Cont.) BB 48–53 <p>We write in journals. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Conventions of Print (Cont.) BB 20–21 <p>Name the colors. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Color Words (Cont.) BB 72–73
5–6	<p>Writers read to learn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Initial Sounds BB 8–9 <p>We tell and write stories.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Story Order BB 22–23 <p>Once upon a time . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Sentences BB 76–77
7–8	<p>Writers read to learn. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Initial Sounds (Cont.) BB 8–9 <p>We tell and write stories. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Story Order (Cont.) BB 22–23 <p>Listen to the rhyme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Rhyming Words BB 74–67
9	<p>Writers share to explain and entertain. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Names and Words in Stories (Cont.) BB 12–14 <p>We tell and write stories. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Story Order (Cont.) BB 22–23

Fourth Quarter (9 Weeks)

Week	The Writing Spot Big Book and Buddy Book (BB)
1–2	<p>(Revisit) Spot writes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> (Revisit) Steps in the Process BB 2–3 <p>Visit our community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Letters BB 68–69
3–4	<p>Alligator to Zipper-Dee-Do!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Rhyming Words BB 54–56 <p>Visit our community. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Letters (Cont.) BB 68–69
5–6	<p>Alligator to Zipper-Dee-Do! (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Rhyming Words (Cont.) BB 54–56 <p>Water is everywhere.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Sentences BB 66–67
7–8	<p>Water is everywhere. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Sentences (Cont.) BB 66–67 <p>We tell and write stories. (Cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Skills:</i> Everyday Words for You BB 106–108
9	<p>Writers Fest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Have a celebration and special sharing time dedicated to childrens' writing.)