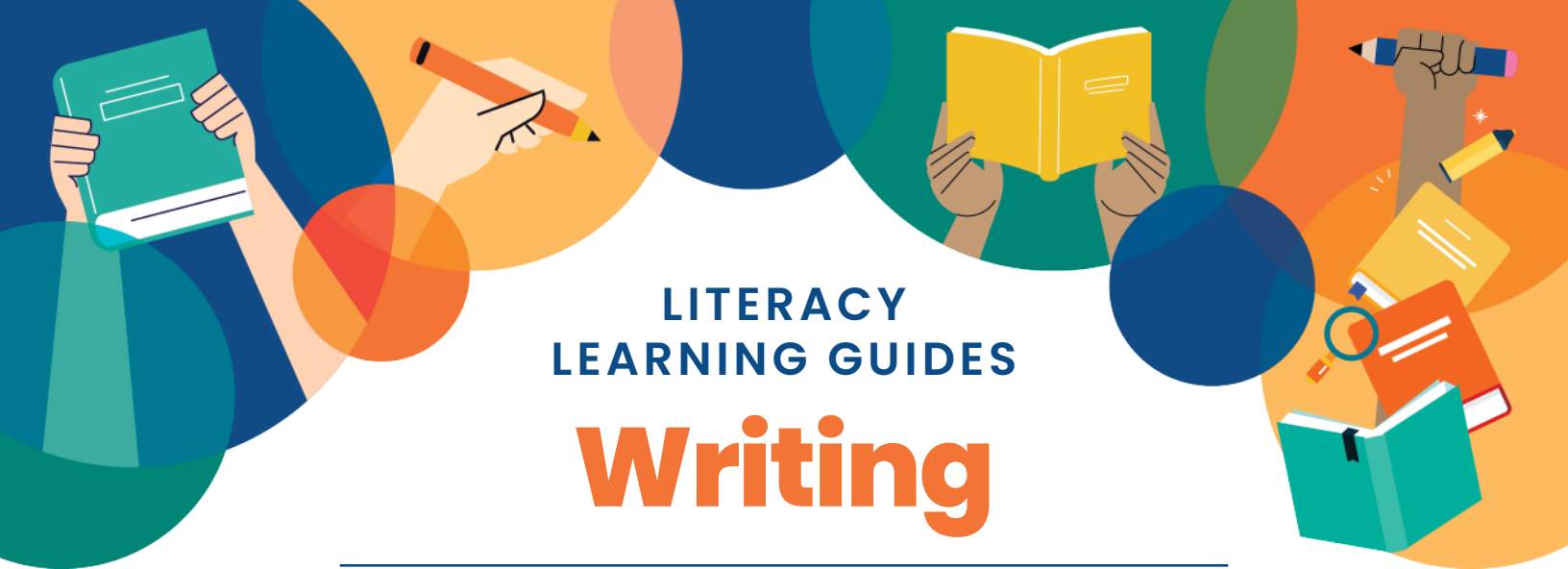




LITERACY LEARNING GUIDES

Writing

Improving writing

Don't spell words

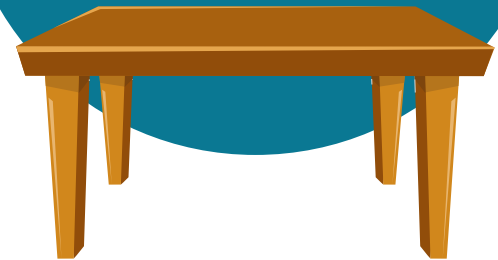
INSTEAD...

- 1. SOUND STRETCH:** Have your child slowly say the word over and over. Ask him what letter sounds he is hearing.
- 2. HAVE A GO:** Encourage him to try the word spelling himself.
- 3. YOU DO, I DO:** Near where he attempted to write the word, you then write it correctly. Point out the parts of the word he spelled correctly and those he was close on. Then, have *him* write it correctly.



Add more info

PARAGRAPHS: Compare a paragraph to the parts of a table. For every idea your child writes, he needs to add supporting detail sentences. Each topic sentence serves as the table top and is held up and supported by 3-4 additional "leg" sentences.



Grab the reader's attention

TITLES: It may seem rather insignificant, but there is great power in an attention-grabbing title. Rather than *My Essay*, *Chapter Summary*, or *Biography*, encourage your child to think of 2-3 optional titles and select his favorite.

VERB CHOICE: Writers are praised for strong description and word choice. But in particular, strong *verb* choice is powerful. Compliment your child's use of synonyms for simplistic verbs like "get" (e.g., *steal*, *sneak*, *snatch*, etc.), and "go" (e.g., *dash*, *race*, *climb*, *slide*, etc.).

