

Dear Parents,

If your child is struggling with writing conventions (capitalization and punctuation) in first grade I hope these tips will help your child be more successful.



Orally with your child tell a short story. Exaggerate the end of the sentence with a clear stop before saying the next sentence.

Examples:

Today was a busy day. After I dropped you off at school I went to the grocery store. I brought the groceries home and put them away. Next I washed the car. Then I took lunch to my sick friend. Finally, I rushed to pick you up from school on time.

Dolphins are my favorite animal. They are good swimmers. I like to watch them jump and do flips in the ocean. They are very smart and can be trained to do tricks. Dolphins are amazing to me!

After many days of modeling this with your child have them try it as you listen for their clear stop. Help them to make the connection that the stop is the end of the sentence and tells a complete thought.



While reading aloud pick books that have complete sentences (not books like songs, rhymes or Dr. Seuss) and do the same to exaggerate the stops. On a few pages have your child reread each sentence after you read it and point out the punctuation mark to note the end of the sentence.



Before writing brainstorm orally with your child their sentences. Model the stop (punctuation) for their sentences.

Lastly, remember the rules of Capitalization:

All sentences start with a capital letter.

The pronoun I is always a capital letter.

All names (people, places) are capitalized.

Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs. Winter ☺

