

How Much Writing Should My Students Be Producing?

(Aligned with the Common Core Standards)

Kindergarten:

Kindergarteners can write at least four to five 3 page booklets a week for the first few months of Kindergarten. As they get older and more proficient they will work longer on each page of writing and will start putting sentences under their pictures. They will move to doing three booklets a week.

1st Grade:

First Graders will write a total of 8-10 pieces each month. Each week students can be expected to work across several 3 page booklets with 3 sentences under each picture. Expect students to write fewer booklets as the year goes on as their stories get more complex and they spend more time in the revision and editing processes.

2nd Grade:

In second grade, the weekly goal is to have students write across several 5 page booklets with 5-7 sentences of writing on each page. As the year progresses, move to paper with smaller lines and only small boxes for quick sketches. Their pieces will become more complex and therefore they will produce fewer booklets.

3rd Grade:

Students are expected to write at least one page per day. This includes drafts and revisions of those drafts. By the end of each month, the students should each have 2 finished pieces (edited and published).

4th Grade and 5th Grade:

Students should be writing 2 pages daily (including drafts and revisions). By the end of each month or unit of study, students should have 1 finished piece. As their writing progresses, their pieces will be more complex.

Remember: Children get better at writing by writing! Practice, practice, practice. Do not abbreviate writing time so it lasts only as long as your students' attention spans. Stretch them! We want to teach students to say more, write more, and build their writing stamina.