

**Try this fun beach activity to support your child's literacy development in grades K through 2!**

## **Sand Writing**

Combine the thrill of a hunt for treasures at the beach with the excitement children have for letters and words. This activity involves curiosity, collection, and literacy as you write and play with things in the sand.

### **MATERIALS:**

You will need items collected from the beach, sand, stick (optional). If you are not at the beach while you are doing this activity, toy items or items cut from paper/cardboard will work. And, if you don't have sand, you can do the writing on paper (or in dirt at the playground/park).

### **DIRECTIONS:**

1. Collect three things from the beach (e.g., shell, seaweed, rock) and place them in sand that is wet but not being washed over.
2. Write the name of each item in the sand using a stick or your finger.
3. Encourage your child to trace your writing or practice writing the name of the item themselves, if they are ready for it.
4. *Modify:* For children who are just learning the alphabet, simplify this activity by just writing the first letter of each item.
5. *Extend:* Give each item a name and make up a story about it (e.g., Isabel the Shell and the Big Wave).