



How Sweet!

Beginner: Create Valentine's cards for the special people in your life, encouraging your child to draw pictures, print simple words, and the reginient's name

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[Tip]: Brainstorm words such as love, happy, hugs, and have your child practice writing short words.

Intermediate: Create Valentine's cards with simple messages like, "I love you," "You are special to me/us"

[Tip]: Encourage your child to write slowly and neatly, so recipients can read their card with ease.

Experienced: Come up with personalized messages for your Valentines as a family, and help your child spell difficult words by sounding them out.

[Tip]: Point out unconventional letter sounds like how "ph" sounds like the letter F in words like phone and photo.

Why is this important? Writing messages of love and appreciation for the special people in our lives is a great way to spread joy while practicing early writing and fine motor skills.

Looking for more information? Check out our <u>Letter Formation</u> resource to use alongside your Valentine creations!

References: Kumar, A., & Epley, N. (2018). Undervaluing Gratitude: Expressers Misunderstand the Consequences of Showing Appreciation. https://journals-sagepub-com.uwinnipeg.idm.oclc.org/doi/10.1177/0956797618772506 Schinke, S. P., Cole, K. C., & Poulin, S. R. (2000). Enhancing the educational achievement of at-risk youth. Prevention Science, 1(1), 51–60

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