

PLEASE WRITE BACK!

TEACHER'S GUIDE



Please Write Back!

Alfie, an adorable alligator, writes a letter to Grandma all by himself. He addresses the letter, stamps it, and mails it. Alfie waits and waits for a response. Will Grandma ever write back?

WAYS TO INTERACT WITH THE BOOK...

WAITING

Discuss times in life when we have to wait. Have the children think of a time when they had to wait for something, such as a bus, or their birthday party. Talk about ways to pass the time when we are waiting for something to happen. Why are some ways better than others? Have the children draw a picture of a good way to pass the time while they are waiting.

LETTER WRITING

Discuss the main parts of a letter; the salutation, the body and the closing. Have the children write a thank you letter to a family member using one of the Alfie stationery sheets.

MAKE AN ENVELOPE

This is a great addendum to the letter writing activity above. Discuss the parts of a properly addressed envelope; the address, return address and the postage. Discuss why we use addresses and how they help the postal service deliver our mail. Have the children make their own envelopes. Print out the Envelope template activity sheet and the accompanying instruction sheet. The children can use real stamps and actually mail their letters, or they can use stickers in place of real stamps.

PHILATELY

Philately is a fancy word for stamp collecting. Stamp collecting has been around about as long as there have been stamps. Have the children examine some stamps. On several large index cards, paste various colorful postage stamps then laminate the cards. Have the children look at the stamps with a magnifying glass. Ask the children what they see. Which stamp has the most postage associated with it? Are there any stamps from another country? Which stamp is their favorite? Why? Have the children design their own stamps with the Design a Stamp activity sheet.

* Activity sheets mentioned above can be downloaded from www.AlfieTheAlligator.com