FAMILY SUPPORT:

FOURTH GRADE WRITER

◆ Read chapter books aloud to your child. Reading provides a model for good writing.

◆ Help your child locate information on the Internet, in encyclopedias, and in nonfiction materials.

◆ Involve your child in doing research before you buy a major purchase or go on a trip.

◆ Encourage your child to send postcards to friends when you’re on a trip. (Gather addresses and stamps before you leave.)

◆ Have your child keep the family journal on a trip.

◆ Take your child to hear a children’s author speak about writing.

◆ Talk about how you revise and edit your own writing.

◆ Help your child revise for only one thing. Edit when asked for help.

◆ Ask your child to circle misspelled words and look them up, then check the words.

◆ Help your child become comfortable with writing tools, such as spell checkers, dictionaries, and a thesaurus.

◆ Encourage your child to share finished writing and to talk about his or her writing process.

◆ Find different audiences for your child's writing (friends, relatives, or contests).

◆ Subscribe to magazines, such as *Highlights*, *Cricket*, or *Stone Soup* that publish student writing. Encourage your child to submit a story, book review, or poem.

◆ Help your child identify his or her strengths as a writer and set realistic goals.