

### **How to Teach Copywork:**

Copywork can seem simplistic. Give your child a sentence or two and have them copy it. It can also seem like busy work, but the benefits are great! Copywork is a simple introduction to handwriting, spelling, and composition. Have children copy only the best authors, with the best writing, and ideas to fill their growing minds.

### **When to begin copywork:**

Once a child learns how to write their letters comfortably, they are ready to start simple copywork. Start with very short sentences and have them copy it, always in their best handwriting. It is important that they give their best effort. If you find them struggling, give them less to copy. In the beginning, it's okay if they only do a few words per sitting as long as it is in their best handwriting. You can gradually increase the length of the model as they become more and more comfortable. However, it is important to take their age into consideration. As they gain age and experience with copywork the quantity and quality of their work should improve.

### **Why copywork:**

Copying models of good writing teaches children what good writing looks and sounds like, thereby improving their own writing. Many of the world's greatest writers learned how to write through copywork. Benjamin Franklin would copy or outline essays and then try to recreate them on his own to see if he could write them better.

### **How to use this book:**

Read a passage from a book of your choosing. Have the student complete the narration exercise then, in the child's best handwriting, have them copy an excerpt from the reading onto the lines provided paying close attention to capitalization and punctuation. Once completed save the Narration Notebook™ as a keepsake for all their hard work.

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