

# Writing IEP Goals — Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

17 measurable goals written to IDEA standards. Replace [student] and [date]; adjust criteria to the student's baseline.

Written-expression CBM (a 3-minute story-starter probe) gives you Total Words Written and Correct Writing Sequences — two adjacent, correctly spelled and punctuated words count as one sequence. Benchmarks vary by publisher; confirm which your district uses before writing a target number into a goal.

## HANDWRITING & LETTER FORMATION

1. [student] will form all uppercase and lowercase letters with correct starting point and formation, with 80% legibility across 4 of 5 writing samples.
2. [student] will write legibly within a defined line or space, with 80% of letters correctly sized and placed, across 4 of 5 samples.
3. [student] will copy a sentence from a model with 90% accuracy in letter formation and spacing, across 4 of 5 trials.

## SENTENCE-LEVEL WRITING CONVENTIONS

4. [student] will write a complete simple sentence (subject and verb) independently, with 80% accuracy across 4 of 5 writing samples.
5. [student] will use a capital letter at the start of a sentence and correct end punctuation, with 80% accuracy across 4 of 5 samples.
6. [student] will use correct spacing between words when writing a sentence, with 80% accuracy across 4 of 5 samples.

## WRITTEN EXPRESSION FLUENCY (CBM)

7. Given a 3-minute writing probe, [student] will produce [X] correct writing sequences, increasing from a baseline of [Y], across 3 consecutive probes.
8. Given a 3-minute writing probe, [student] will write a total of [X] words, increasing from a baseline of [Y] words, across 3 consecutive probes.
9. [student] will generate at least 3 sentences on a given topic within 10 minutes, with 80% of sentences complete and on-topic, across 4 of 5 samples.

## SPELLING

10. [student] will spell CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words with 80% accuracy on a dictated spelling probe, across 4 of 5 trials.
11. [student] will spell grade-level high-frequency words with 80% accuracy across 4 of 5 trials.
12. [student] will apply a taught spelling pattern (e.g., -at, -ing, silent e) when writing new words, with 80% accuracy across 4 of 5 trials.

## THE WRITING PROCESS & INDEPENDENCE

13. [student] will use a graphic organizer or picture plan before writing, with adult support fading, across 4 of 5 writing tasks.
14. [student] will reread their own writing and fix at least 1 error (capitalization, punctuation, or spelling) with prompting, in 4 of 5 opportunities.
15. [student] will write independently for [X] minutes without off-task behavior, across 3 consecutive observations.
16. [student] will use an assistive tool (word bank, letter strip, adapted grip) to complete a writing task with increasing independence, across 4 of 5 trials.
17. [student] will share their writing with a peer or the class, reading at least 1 sentence aloud, in 4 of 5 opportunities.

# Using These Writing Goals at Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

## CBM-WE gives you two real numbers

Total Words Written is the fastest to score; Correct Writing Sequences — two adjacent correct words — is the more sensitive measure of actual quality.

## Separate handwriting from composing

A student who struggles to form letters but has strong ideas needs a very different goal than one whose letters are neat but whose sentences don't make sense.

## Spacing and legibility are often the hidden barrier

A student who runs words together isn't just being messy — without spacing, even correctly spelled words score as wrong on a CBM probe.

## Have the student reread their own writing

Catching one's own error, even with prompting, is a skill worth its own goal line — it's different from writing correctly the first time.

CBM-WE benchmarks vary by publisher and by district-built norms — there is no single “correct” number of correct writing sequences for 2nd grade. Confirm which set your school uses before writing a target into a goal.

### Tired of rebuilding these forms every year?

IEP Goal Writer also drafts your PLAAFP and progress notes from the same student profile — free to try at [iepgoalwriter.pro](http://iepgoalwriter.pro)