

## Writing as a Thought Process

It is time we brought in a research-based understanding of writing in the Indian classrooms, which is 'process approach' to writing. Process approach to writing views writing as a thought process. It is our thoughts that go through several drafts and again, it is our thoughts that we revise to make our writing effective and accurate.

It is observed that teaching how to write has to be focused less on techniques and more on the fundamental insights about how children process information for writing. Writing is a complex cognitive process, and it is important to understand the role and participation of the child as a writer in this process. A writer indulges in analysis and synthesis, which requires the breakup of earlier conceptual connections and the making of a new one, thus, making writing an effective tool for negotiation and development of thoughts.

Furthermore, freedom from actual situations, constant evaluation of thoughts, and analysis and synthesis of concepts help the writer to transform their experience into knowledge. Therefore, writing cannot be understood simply as a motor exercise, as encoding or as merely reflecting thoughts, it is also about writing with creativity and imagination.

Writing work should be such that it provides opportunities for children to be active, creative and authentic in their expression. Writing should also be about everyday science and building scientific temper, facts, processes, etc. Another important area is the functional aspect of writing, for example, writing messages, notes, etc. The following points are important to make writing a meaningful and engaging activity for the children.