

Applied Grammar™



Dear Friends,

It is the busiest of months for us as we try to get the conventions in, print more of our product, celebrate two grandsons' birthdays, one son's birthday, our anniversary, and the anniversary of our other son and daughter-in-law. We need to add in there the Brubaker reunion and the tilling and planting of the garden. There have been doctor appointments, and baby sitting. What a joy it is to have all of the six grand children back in the area close to us! Suddenly our lives have gotten very, very busy. It is good to take a few minutes and share some thoughts with my friends on my newsletter list.

I am certain that you know the pressure of the Spring activities. I can imagine the school days are seeming long and laborious as you try to fit in the spring agenda. I hope that the newsletters this past school year have been encouraging and helpful. I

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News & Events

Hear ye, Hear ye!

The Pre-Writing Packet for Toddlers is complete and ready for sale!

A work book for Elementary I Level is ready for sale as well.

New covers are being phased in for a stronger binding and more professional look.

A work book for Elementary II Level is being worked on.

often wonder when I will run out of all that I have learned over the years. It can't be long now, and I ask myself, "what will I write about then?"

Bob and I have learned that building a business from the ground up is no easy task. Many times we have wondered if we should continue. Then parents tell us what a difference Applied Grammar has made in their attempts at teaching grammar and getting their children to write, and we feel humbled, grateful, and willing to keep on going. The new Pre-Writing Packet for Toddlers was beautifully and artistically done by our daughter-in-law, Lea Brubaker. I think you will find it something that can stay in a family and be passed down for many years.

Bob and I continue to look for ways to be of service to you, our customers, in a way that will add pleasure and encouragement to your lives.

Blessings,

Bob and Gail

You can find past copies of the newsletter [here](#).

We also have a [page](#) with links to articles that we find interesting.

We have registered for the following conventions:

Harrisburg, PA
Austin, TX
Edison, NJ
Atlanta, GA

Work on the Language Lessons for Autistic children is underway. There are a lot of plans for puppets, lessons on DVD, songs for everyday vocabulary and some resource materials for non verbal children. I can't wait to pull it all together and get it out to you.

The handwriting course is underway. It will be called **Personal Penmanship** and will begin with pre-handwriting exercises for toddlers. The Pre-Writing Packet for Toddlers is complete and ready for sale.

You might also want to

[sign up for e-editing](#)

For the whole family, just **\$30.00 an hour**.

Choose **[Gail](#)** or **[Dulci](#)** as your editor.

Send us a document.

We time how long it takes us to **edit, make suggestions**, and send it back telling you how many minutes are used off of your hour.

You have **one year to use your minutes**.

Featured Article

How can I Teach my Child to be More Accurate?



How accurate are you? Taking the time to be accurate comes naturally to some children. For others who are always in a hurry to get as much as they can into every day it can be very challenging.

I must admit that going slowly and carefully while paying attention to minute detail is something that I find very difficult. I have always been the type to get a task done quickly and good enough so that I can move on to something else to get done. I love not the process, but the feeling of completion and "clearing the deck" for the things I really want to do. I love to check things off a list.

My husband, on the other hand, loves the process of making something right. He likes to do leather work, punching holes then carefully hand-stitching so that it looks just right.

How can we teach the children, like me, who are in such a big hurry to move on to be more accurate?

Well, the home school setting is the perfect place to be able to do this since you don't have the same time constraints as classroom teachers. Here are some of the things I wish I would have learned a long time ago, and here is how I wish I had been taught.

First, I wish that someone would have shown me and encouraged me to slow down. I wish that I would have been told that to go more slowly and carefully would give me a better sense of pride in a job well done. I wish that someone would have held me accountable in a loving way for the accuracy of my papers, and given me the time to accomplish that.

I don't believe any teacher at any time ever told me to take my time and think slowly in order to make certain my papers were accurate. I remember listening to the clock ticking and thinking to myself that the task was taking forever and I should hurry. I have always felt embarrassed by my errors and wanted to hide away instead of persevering. Here is my list of how to teach a child to be more accurate:

1. Give time to think and process and recheck work.
2. Encourage positive ways of looking at mistakes.
3. Set accuracy goals and reward for increasing accuracy.
4. Give examples of how accuracy saves time, money, and embarrassment in real life.
5. Model and help children deal with failure in positive ways.
6. Encourage the asking of questions to clarify understanding.
7. Of course you know this: **NO NAME CALLING**. I cannot stress enough not to label your child by calling him or her names such as "lazy," "dummy," "goofy," or anything else. Your child may laugh with you because they do not know how to tell you how hurt they are by

the name calling, so please be careful. My father routinely called me a "dummy" whenever I made mistakes; and to this day I find the words, "I'm no dummy" silently coursing through my mind; trying to prove to myself that his words were not true.

I want to tell you a little bit about the Pre-Writing Packet for Toddlers.

In this packet, every page is laminated and unbound so that you can use the pages with multiple children at the same time.

The numbers and letters are large enough that the children will use gross motor muscles which makes remembering the shapes and directions easier.

There are several activities that can be done with just one page; such as writing on/wiping off, laying Wiki- Sticks, filling with play dough, or tracing with cars or animals.

There are pages that help a child learn to draw in vertical, horizontal, and diagonal directions on a paper before trying the numbers and alphabet.

The pictures representing the sounds for the letter on each page will help children begin to associate all of the sounds with that particular shape.

Some of the pages have mazes and dot-to-dot pictures, and some are "finish the picture" pages so that a child can practice the spacial awareness of objects in relation to one another.

Using all of the letters together, you can have students put the alphabet in order or match the upper and lower case letters.

I hope you will take a minute to check out some sample pages of the Pre-Writing Packet for Toddlers on our website.