

Letter writing is many things to many people. My mother encouraged my sisters and I to write thank you notes, letters to Grandma and Grandpa and to my dad, who was often "overseas" in the U.S. Navy. It was a way of staying in touch with who we were in an ever changing world. When I left home for college, I began a journey of journals, phone calls and letter writing. I was terribly homesick and letter writing was a life preserver of sorts. Years later my mother handed me a box that contained every letter that I wrote home during the five years I was away at school. I continued to write letters, as a parent, a sister, an aunt and now, as a grandmother myself. Here's one that I wrote to my family after one particularly memorable Thanksgiving.

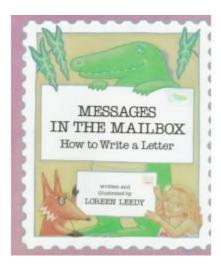
Chanksgiving's passed for one more year, A day for the warmth of food and cheer, Of too much turkey, pies and such, And lots of time to smile and touch.

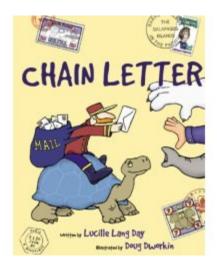
We all sit back, so full and fed, To reminisce and plan ahead. Then Grandma's pictures pass around, And "oohs" and "aahs" of joy abound.

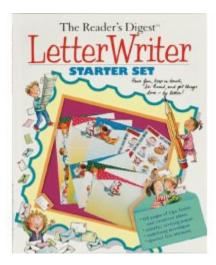
There's time to play "Remember When?" We're all the victim now and then Of stories shared from yesteryear, With giggles, laughs and wistful tears.

Then dirty dishes beckon hands, As feast and fun for all disbands. We pack the kids, the food, the men . . . Thanksgiving's blessed us once again.

Letter Writing Literature







Messages in the Mailbox: How to Write a Letter Loreen Leedy

## Chain Letter

Lucille Lang Day

Letter Writer Starter Set

Nancy Cobb

## Other Picture Books That Inspire Letter Writing

A Visit to the Post Office by Sandra Ziegler Amelia Writes Again by Marissa Moss Amelia's Notebook by Marissa Moss Anna's Secret Friend by Yoriko Tsutui Arthur and the Pen-Pal Playoff by Marc Brown Click, Clack, Moo, Cows That Type by Betsy Lewin Corduroy Write a Letter by Alison Inches Day the Computers Broke Down by Laura Normang Dear Annie by Judith Casey Dear Bear by Joanna Harrison Dear Brother by Frank Asch and Valdimir Vagin Dear Hildegarde by Bernard Weber Dear Mr. Blueberry by Simon James Dear Mrs. LaRue by Mark Teague Dear Napolean, I Know You're Dead But ... by Elvira Woodruff Dear Peter Rabbit by Alma Flo Ada Dear Phoebe by Sue Alexander Dear Rebecca, Winter is Here by Jean Craighead George Dear Santa by Margaret Wise Detective LaRue: Letters From the Investigation by Mark Teague

Don't forget to Write by Martina Selway

Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown

Here Comes the Mail by Gloria Skurzynski

I Wanna Iguana, by Karen Kaufman Orloff If You Were a Letter Writer by Joan Lowry Nixon

Jolly Postman (Series) by Janet and Allan Ahlberg

Letter to Amy by Ezra Jack Keats Letters From Felix (Series) by Annette Langen Little Bear's Friend by Else Homelund Minarik Long, Long Letter by Elizabeth Spurr Love from Uncle Clyde by Nancy Winslow Parker Love, Your Uncle Bear Pete by Dylan Sheldon

Mailing May by Michael O. Tunnell Messages in the Mailbox: How to Write a Letter by Loreen Leedy My Mother the Mail Carrier by Inex Maury

Never Mail an Elephant by Mike Thaler No Two Snowflakes by Sheree Fitch No Mail for Mitchell by Catherine Siracusa

Post Office Book: Mail and How It Moves by Gail Gibbons Postal Workers A-Z by Jean Johnson Postcards from Different Countries by Zoe Dawson Postcards from Pluto by Loreen Leedy

What the Mailman Brought by Carolyn Craven What's It Like to Be a Postal Worker by Morgan Matthews

Yours Truly, Goldlilocks by Alma Flor Ada

Letter Writing

Fan Letter

Friendly Letter

Invitation

Letter from Camp

Letter to the Editor

Pen Pal Letter

**Request Letter** 

Thank You Note