

# SUMMER BREAK @HOME

with your Library



## Writing Letters

In *Same Sun Here* Meena and River write letters to each other. Stories told through letters or journal entries are called epistolary novels, from the Greek Epistole meaning letter. Letters often become important documents for studying history and learning about people and cultures from our past.

For this activity, you will write a letter and mail it. You can send the letter to anyone you like: a family member, a friend, or to a stranger. There are a number of websites that can match you up with a pen pal like PenPal World, and your parent or guardian can help you sign up for that. Or you could reach out to a local retirement home or assisted living facility to send a letter to a member of your community who can't have visitors right now.

Now, how will you write your letter? Letters have a standard form that you can follow and it has been included on the next page. It includes:

- A header, where you put the date you are writing the letter.
- The greeting, which could start "Dear" "Hello" or if you are feeling particularly fancy, "Salutations."
- The body of the letter where you will tell about your life and ask questions for the recipient.
- The closing can be "Sincerely" "Your friend" "Best Wishes" or some other sign off that fits how you would say goodbye to the person you are writing to.
- Your signature

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Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Dear Friend,

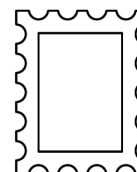
Then you write your message. Be sure to include questions for the recipient and tell them about your recent doings. Treat the body of the letter as a conversation where you can wait longer to get the answers.

*Sincerely,*

*Your Name*

After you have finished writing your letter, you need to put it in the envelope and address it so the post office knows where to send your letter. You will need to include your name and address as well in case something goes wrong and the post office is unable to deliver the letter. It should look something like this:

Your Name  
123 Your Street  
City, MN, ZIP Code



Friend's Name  
4560 Random Rd  
City, State, ZIP Code