

FUN WITH PEN PALS



I thank God every time I remember you. (Philippians 1:3 ICB)

Grab a pencil, a bright crayon, or your favorite washable marker! It's time to join CJ Star and the Sonshine Squad as they discover how to share the love of Jesus, writing one letter at a time.

Did you know that writing letters is like a superpower? It helps you become a better reader and it sparks your creativity. Best of all, it puts a huge smile on someone else's face!

PEN PAL TIPS

- Just be you. Your words help others get to know you.
- Ask questions. Questions help you and your pen pal get to know each other.
- Keep it going. Writing to a pen pal is like playing a game of catch. You send a letter and they send one back, then you send one right back to them!

CHOOSING A PEN PAL

Here are some great people to start with:

- **Family:** a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or cousin
- **Friends:** a buddy who moved away to a different town
- **Church:** Ask your pastor if there's someone who is lonely or not feeling well.
- **Community:** someone living in a local nursing home or retirement center

THINGS TO WRITE ABOUT

Share some of your favorite things and ask fun questions.

- **Favorite Things:** color, animal, game, book, holiday, season, hobby, or sport
- **Favorite Foods:** fruit, veggie, dessert, or snack.
- **The Best Bits:** one thing you're thankful for, your favorite Bible character, story (or verse)
- **Fun Questions:** What superpower would you choose? What are you really good at? Have you ever broken a bone or gotten stitches? Do you have a nickname, and how did you get it? What makes you laugh? If you could do anything, what would you do?
- **In Every Letter:** Ask: How can I pray for you this week?

ENVELOPE SURPRISES

Make your mail extra special by tucking a small "happy" inside.

- **Art:** a sticker, a hand-drawn picture, or a bookmark
- **Gifts:** a packet of seeds, a friendship bracelet, or a photo
- **Giggles:** a funny joke or a silly drawing



JOKES TO SHARE

What do you call a train that sneezes? (Achoo-choo train!)
What do you call a sleeping dinosaur? (A Dino-snore!)
What do you call a sad strawberry? (A blueberry!)
What did the dolphin say when he made a mistake? (I didn't do it on *porpoise*!)
Why are frogs always so happy? (They eat whatever bugs 'em!)
How does a rainbow tie its shoes? (With rainbows!)
What kind of dog does a magician have? (A labra-cadabrador!)
What did the lemon say after it sneezed? (Ex-squeeze me!)



Knock! Knock!
Who's there?
Sue.
Sue who?
(*Sue-prize* letter from your pen pal)

Knock! Knock!
Who's there?
Zank.
Zank who?
(Zank you for being my pen pal)

PAPER AIRPLANE ADVENTURES



Who says mail has to go in a mailbox? Try these Airmail Missions!

STORY MISSION

Write one sentence or draw one picture on a piece of paper. Fold it into a paper airplane and "air mail" it to your friend. Your friend will think of the next line in the story, write or draw it, then send it back to you. Keep going until you've drawn or written the whole tale.

KINDNESS MISSION

Is your sibling feeling sad? Fly a *Kindness Plane* into their room. Is your neighbor working hard in the yard? Send a *You're Doing Great! Plane* over the fence.

MISSION OF LOVE

Send a surprise *I Love You Plane* to Mom or Dad.

PEN PAL PRAYER

Dear God, thank You for my friends and family, and for giving me words to share with them. Please bless my pen pal today. May my letter be like a ray of sunshine in their mailbox so they can feel Your love. In Jesus' name, amen.