



# Secret Message Box

# A Special Message for Someone Special!

**Beginner:** Write or draw messages for family members or friends and place them in a decorated message box; then read them together as a family.

**[Tip]:** Use shoe or tissue boxes, as well as stickers, markers, images, or paint for decoration.

**Intermediate:** Have everyone create and decorate their own message box, and share simple messages with one another.

**[Tip]:** Encourage your child to write letters or sound out words in their messages.

**Experienced:** Encourage your child to write messages and memories to save in their own message box.

**[Tip]:** Family members can read these at a special time, like the end of the school year or New Year's Eve.

**Why is this important?** Messages have meaning and can have a big impact on others.

**References:** Chohan, S. K. (2011). Any letter for me? Relationships between an elementary school letter writing program and student attitudes, literacy achievement, and friendship culture. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 39(1), 39–50.

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