

**Using Co:Writer with Beginning Readers and Writers**  
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As soon as students are able to identify the initial consonant for some words, at least some of the time, they can begin using Co:Write® to support their writing. We have found that setting Co:Writer preferences in the following ways makes these early writing efforts more successful. The following directions are for Co:Writer SE.

1. Launch Co:Writer.
2. Select the student for whom you are creating this set-up if asked.
3. Select **no template** when asked to select a template.
4. Select **word window** as your Co:Writer window.
5. Select **predict always**.
6. Select **beginning writer**.
7. Select **flexible spelling**.
8. Select **6** guesses.
9. Select **hide numbers**.
10. Click on **larger** 4 times to make the text size as large as possible.
11. Select a color scheme that is best for your student. We tend to use the black text on the aqua background. **DO NOT** choose black text with the white background because it does not provide enough contrast between the Co:Writer box and word processing program when Co:Writer is used.
12. Now you are ready to use Co:Writer with Write:OutLoud or the word processing software of your choice.