



Writing



Once your child can grasp a marker or a crayon, give them paper and encourage them to draw and scribble.

Scribbling and coloring develops fine-motor control, eye-hand coordination and dexterity all of which are necessary for future writing skills.

Play-Doh

Using Play-Doh helps develop finger and hand strength needed for holding writing utensils. Children squeeze, knead, poke and pinch the Dough. All these activities exercise the muscles in your child's hands and forearms to gain strength for fine motor skills like writing.

Pincher Activities

These activities will help develop fine motor control.



For real young children, encourage them to pick up objects with their fingers. As they get older (and you do not have to worry about choking hazards) have your child pick up smaller objects such as buttons or pom pom balls. Make this activity more challenging by having your child use tweezers or tongs.

Clothes pin activities are great for strengthening hand muscles! Make it interesting by having your child match colors on a paint sample card. Or draw letters or shapes on a piece of paper and have your child match those. (Learning shapes is a pre-letter skill and matching is a pre math skill!)



Peel Away Letters

Glue Food coloring Wax paper or Plastic Lid



1. Squeeze a few drops of food coloring into a bottle of white glue. Have your child shake the glue until the food coloring has been completely mixed in.
2. Using the glue, draw an example of the letter(s) you want your child to "write" on the wax paper and then let your child do the same. (Squeezing the glue is a great way to sneak in strengthening little hands!) Let the letters dry and then peel them off the next day.

Q-tip Writing

Q-tips Paint Paper

Q-tips are great for increasing your child's fine motor skills, as your child needs to grasp the q-tip as they would a pencil. Templates can make this activity more challenging. Your child will need to focus on placing the paint dot inside the circle.



Mengle Memorial Library
324 Main Street
Brockway, PA 15824

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Encourage your child to sign their name on their drawings. Even if it is just a scribble, it teaches your child that they can write something that represents their name.

Talk to your child about what they are drawing and ask questions about it. Write down what your child says. This shows that their thoughts and words can be written. This, also, increases your child's narration/story telling skill.

Have your child label parts of their drawings to help them understand that letters and words stand for things.

Finger painting

Finger painting is another activity that strengthens hand and finger muscles and helps with fine motor skill development. Finger painting is also great for teaching your child about mixing colors.

Finger painting is, also, a tactile activity. Tactile and other multisensory activities can stimulate learning by engaging children on multiple levels. Many children with learning disabilities find it easier to learn when they are engaged in multisensory activities.

Use finger painting to enhance your child's learning of letters, numbers, or colors. Add shaving cream to your finger paint for even more goopy fun!



Recipe for Puffy Paint

1 Tablespoon Self Raising Flour 1 Tablespoon Salt 3 Teaspoons Water Food Coloring or Paint

1. Mix ingredients until they have combined into a paste.
2. Paint pictures onto a thicker piece of paper or cardboard. Use a size that will fit into your microwave.
3. After painting, place a microwavable bowl in the centre of the microwave and put 1 painting at a time on top of the bowl. Depending on your microwave it should take about 25 seconds for the paint to puff up. Watch your picture to see how long you need. Be careful not to overcook!

Paint Bag Writing

Finger paint/ Tempera Paint

Ziploc Freezer Bag

Tape (packing, masking, or duct)



1. Put some paint in the bag.
2. Seal it well and smooch the paint around the bag.
3. Add a strip of tape across the top to make sure it stays sealed. It might be easier for younger children if you tape the bag to your table so it stays in place.
4. Using their fingertip or a Q-tip, have your child write.
5. Smooth the paint around and have them write again!



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