

# Writing tips

2 to 3 years

- Give your child lots of two handed activities, like stirring and whisking, so that they can choose which will be their dominant hand for writing.
- Put lots of different sized containers in the bath for your child to fill and pour.
- Give your child different things to cut and snip. They may find this difficult at first but you can help by holding the paper for them.
- Play simple card games like pairs and lotto where your child needs to pick up and turn over the cards.
- Help your child use tweezers or tongs to pick up and move small objects from place to place, such as putting a raisin in each section of an ice cube tray.
- Give your child empty plastic bottles for them to screw and unscrew the lids.
- Put hair gel, bath cream, corn flour and water or paint in a sealed, plastic bag and let your child make marks in it with their finger.
- To say thank you or happy birthday, encourage your child to draw a picture or make a card and sign their name.
- Point at the words when you are reading with your child.

Write  
with me

Writing tips  
for parents



"What I like"

- Drawing and painting.
- Playing with finger puppets and small toy people, animals and vehicles.
- Joining in with the actions to rhymes and songs.
- Helping in the garden by digging, pushing the wheelbarrow, planting and watering.

"What I can do"

- Start to hold my pencil or crayon the right way with a tripod grip.
- Control my left or right hand better – I'm starting to become left or right handed.
- Handle small objects.
- Run, jump, climb and swing along a bar.



Did you know?

Your child is beginning to make more sense of their marks, they can draw pictures and say what their scribbles mean.

This leaflet is from a series of five, each leaflet covers a different age range from birth to five years old. Children develop at their own rates and in their own ways. The ages are suggestions of typical ranges of development.

If you have any concerns about your child's development, speak to your GP, health visitor or someone at your local Sure Start Children's Centre.

You can find all the leaflets and more advice about child development on the Surrey Family Information Service webpages

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/earlylearning](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/earlylearning)



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