

Writing 3-4 years



Did you know?

Your child needs to practise making small marks using a pencil or crayon.

Shoulder and arm muscles are developing and using their hands and fingers to make different movements will help them to strengthen their wrist, hand and finger muscles.

How can you help?

- Play throwing and catching games together.
- Let your child help you around the house, pegging out clothes (the family's or their toy's), using a dustpan and brush, washing up, wiping the table and squeezing out the sponge as they clean the windows.
- Cook together - let your child peel and chop, mash up food, put cake mixture into cases or spread butter on bread.
- Have lots of different materials to cut and stick so your child can make pictures, patterns and models.
- Build with blocks and interlocking blocks, like Lego, to make towers and buildings.
- Let your child cut out pictures from magazines, comics, catalogues and old cards.
- Make people, animals and other objects from play dough.
- Use tweezers to pick up different objects



What I like

- Making cards and sending messages to my friends and family (or Father Christmas) and making lists.
- Drawing and painting pictures and patterns.
- Cutting and sticking.
- Making my own books.

What I can do

- Start to know that writing means something and I'm saying what my marks mean.
- Recognise my name and some familiar words and signs.
- Write some letters in my name and other familiar words, like dad.
- Dress and undress myself and I am beginning to fasten and unfasten zips and buttons.
- Concentrate and sit still for longer.

Children develop at their own rates and in their own ways. The above is typical ranges of development. If you have any concerns about your child's development, speak to your GP or health visitor for advice.