

## **Writing Readiness**

Children show their readiness through their physical dexterity, their efforts to copy letters and their requests for help.

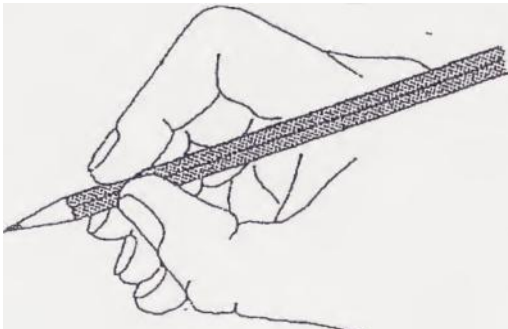
This is the best time to provide writing materials - crayons, paint brushes, felts, pens and pencils, large paper, blackboards and concrete!

Even before this, manipulation activities to develop hand/eye coordination are essential – painting, mixing, throwing, climbing, using playdough, cutting etc



## **Pencil Grip**

The pencil should be held between the thumb and forefinger with the middle finger supporting the finger from below. This makes a "3point grip"



# Helping with Handwriting



*Pencil Grip  
Writing Readiness  
Basic New Zealand Script  
Helpful activities*

a

c | open circle, short stick

b

h | tall stick, tunnel, close the tunnel

c

..... open circle!

d

c | open circle, tall stick

e

- c | bar, open circle

f

p - | 'walking stick', bar

g

c j | open circle, hanging hook

h

h | tall stick, tunnel

i

Short stick, dot

j

j | hanging hook, dot

k

h | tall stick, bow

l

tall stick

m

h h | short stick, tunnel, tunnel

n

h | short stick, tunnel

o

c | open circle, close it

p

h | hanging stick, tunnel, close the tunnel

q

c | open circle, hanging stick

r

h | short stick, half a tunnel

s

start like open circle.  
'curl under' (difficult!)

t

h - |

u

u | cup, short stick

v

u j | cup, hanging

v  
w  
x