

Early mark making and writing skills



Early Mark Making

- Children begin to make very early marks to represent writing.
- There is a clear progression in this and we encourage them at every stage.
- Take time to play alongside your child to encourage their opportunities, grip, motivation and desire to write.



The technical stuff!!!

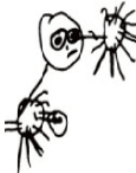

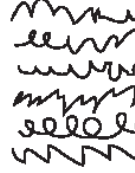
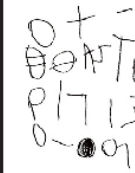


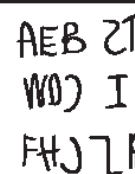
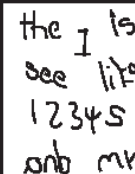
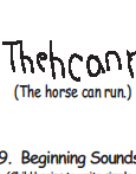
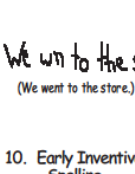
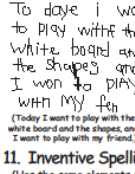
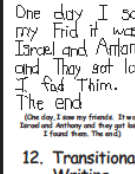
"Children are naturally drawn to making marks. Long before they pick up a pencil or a paintbrush, they will experiment with making marks using hands, fingers, feet etc as well as various found objects that they come across in day-to-day life. For children to become really confident and secure mark makers, we need to provide them with lots of different opportunities, with a variety of exciting mark making resources, in many different contexts"

Gross and fine motor skills

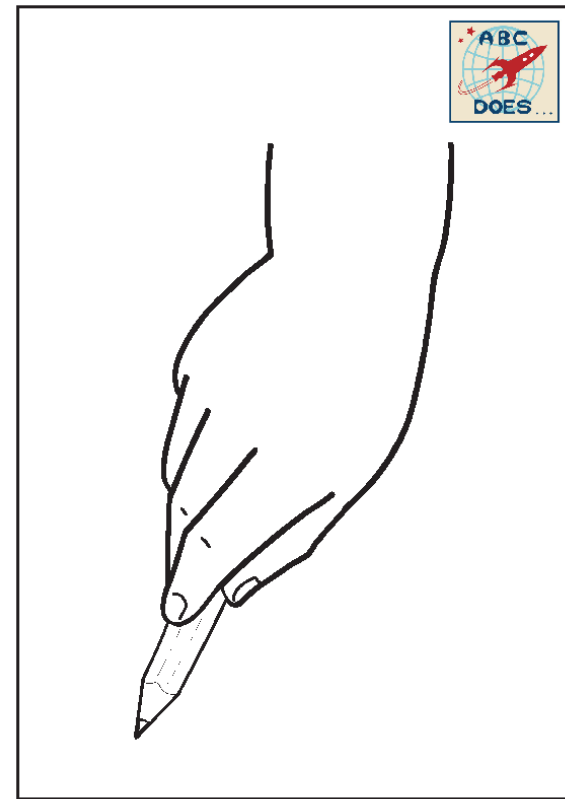
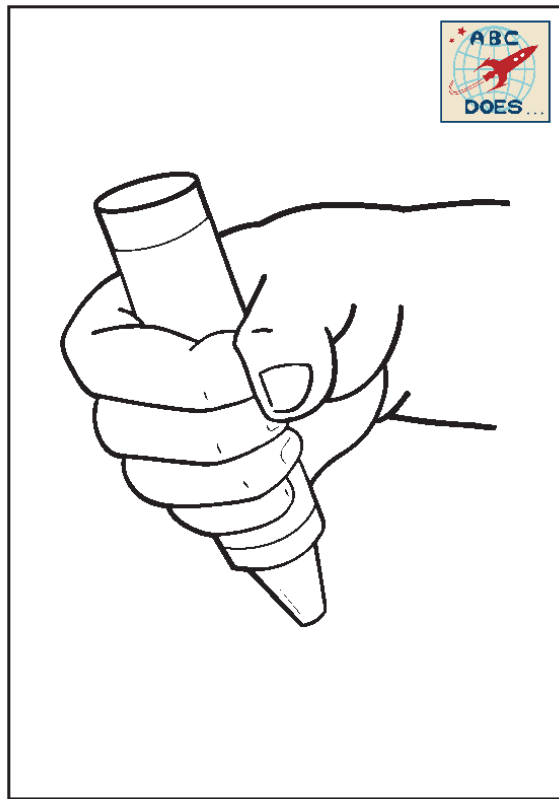
- Children begin to make marks as they play- with brushes, sticks, chalk- using their **shoulder** pivot, with gross movements
- They then narrow this down to the use of the **elbow**, gaining more control.
- Finally they use their **wrist and fingers** for finer control



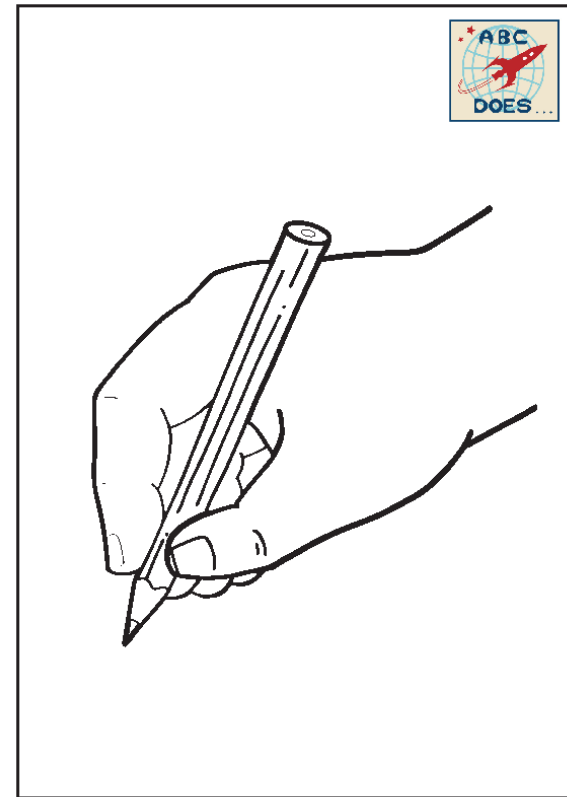
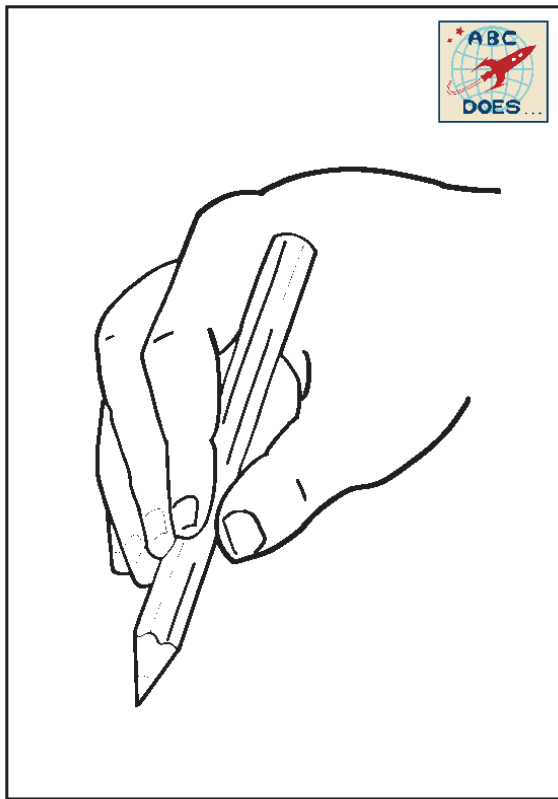
Progression in mark making

HeidiSongs' Chart of the Developmental Progression of A Child's Writing			
 <p>1. Pictures</p>	 <p>2. Random Scribbling</p>	 <p>3. Scribble Writing (Written in linear fashion to mimic real writing.)</p>	 <p>4. Symbols That Represent Letters</p>
 <p>5. Random Letters (No relationship between sounds of letters and what the child is trying to say.)</p>	 <p>6. Letter Strings (Progresses from left to right and top to bottom when the child "reads" his writing.)</p>	 <p>7. Letter Groups (The groups have spaces in between to resemble words.)</p>	 <p>8. Environmental Print (Child copies print found in the room, often without knowing what the words are.)</p>
 <p>9. Beginning Sounds (Child begins to write simple sentences using sight words and just the beginning sounds of words.)</p>	 <p>10. Early Inventive Spelling (Includes the same elements as the previous level, but with more consonant sounds represented and spaces between words.)</p>	 <p>11. Inventive Spelling (Has the same elements as the previous level, but with more sounds per word written, including the vowels. Some conventional spelling patterns may appear.)</p>	 <p>12. Transitional Writing (Includes all of the previous elements, plus some real spellings of words with silent letters and other spelling patterns. Punctuation is beginning to appear.)</p>

Grip progression 1 & 2



Grip progression 3 & 4



Fun ideas to encourage gross motor skills.



Activities to promote fine motor skills



Varied ideas to encourage writing



We encourage writing in all areas of learning



Don't believe everything that you hear.....

So when you ask your child... *"what did you do at school today?"*

Just remember, when they say *"nothing!"* there are incidental areas of learning going on all day at school, indoors and out !

