

CORE SKILL: To use a pencil with good control

Working towards curriculum ambition: To be able to write a simple sentence

Possible sequence of learning:

- Develop strong gross motor skills
- Explore fine motor skills activities
- Develop strong fine motor skills
- Learns how to hold a pencil correctly
- Select a dominant hand
- Learns how to hold a pencil using the tri-pod grip
- Explore using a pencil effectively to mark make
- Use a pencil with good control

Things adults can do:

- Make available a variety of different activities to promote strong gross motor skills
- Make available a variety of different fine motor skills activities
- Make available different types of pencils
- Make available a variety of activities for children to explore mark making
- Demonstrate how to hold a pencil correctly and use it effectively
- Provide a writing aid where needed

Possible literacy opportunities linked to this activity zone:

- Variety of mark making opportunities given e.g. handwriting, name writing, shopping lists, designs, drawing, phonics sessions, chalk, whiteboards etc.

Links to statutory framework: ELG: Fine motor skills:

- Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing - using the tri-pod grip in almost all cases
- Begin to show care accuracy and care when drawing

Links to MAGIC:

- **Motivation and gumption**