

# From Scribbling to Writing

## A guide to Fine Motor Development **For Professionals**



### **Early Literacy Specialists**

Parent Resource Centre

300 Goulburn Private, Ottawa, ON K1N 1C9

Tel: (613) 565-2467 ext 232 / 233 Fax: (613) 565-1144

[www.parentresource.ca](http://www.parentresource.ca)

**Angela Kuehl**

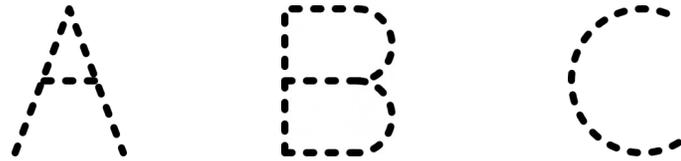
Early Literacy Specialist, County of Renfrew  
akuehl@countyofrenfrew.on.ca, 613-732-4100



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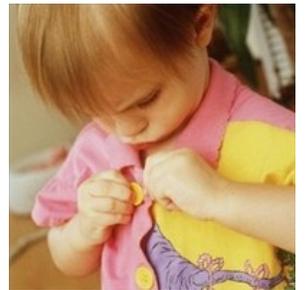
## A guide to fine motor development

We often believe that to prepare a child to write, we need to give them lots of practice holding and using writing tools. Tracing shapes, alphabets and numbers is a popular method for teaching young children to write. Although this can be helpful, before a child can even begin tracing, they must develop the physical ability to hold and manipulate a writing tool.



### **How can we help them develop this physical ability?**

First, they must develop fine motor skills! Fine motor development not only leads to the ability to draw and write, but is essential for everyday activities. Getting dressed, washing, eating and playing all require a child to grasp objects and manipulate them with their hands.



In order to develop these skills, children need to be exposed to activities that involve grasping and manipulating. This booklet will highlight the specific skills that need to be developed and some ways to help build those skills.



# List of Items in Scribbling to Writing Kit

This is a basic 'kit' you can create. Feel free to add any other fine motor activity you feel is needed. New items can be added based on a theme (a book, season, etc) or simply something new and exciting you have come across!

## Hammer set

Hammer, nails and foam pad



## Elastic Hearts

Pegboards and elastics



## Spray Bottles

Empty spray bottles



## Token Sort

Plastic tokens and container with slit at the top

## Sort with tongs

Cups, pompoms (or other small object) and tongs

## Play dough

Play dough and accessories



## Puzzle

Any type of children's puzzle

## Straw Sort

Colorful straw pieces and containers to sort

## Dice

Large and small dice



## Writing

Whiteboard with markers



## Q-tip Painting

Q-tips, paint or bingo dabbers and templates



## Threading

Shapes with holes and thread



## Chalk

Chalkboard and chalk



## List of Items in Scribbling to Writing Kit Continued...

### Books

Finger play books



### Clothes pins

Clothes pins with boards to attach to



### Fishing

Fishing rods, fish with magnets



### Textured objects

Balls, books, toys, etc.

### Yarn drawing

Boards with Velcro, yarn



### Sequencing with beads

Rods or string, beads of different sizes and shapes



If you are a library, playgroup or daycare, you can set up a **'Scribbling to Writing Corner'** where you display some fine motor activities in addition to the information booklet for parents.

### Be sure to include the following in your corner:

- Pamphlets for parents
- 2-3 different activities for kids to try (rotate regularly)
- An attractive bulletin board with one of the 6 skills and activity ideas (PDF version of printable cards)
- Materials to make activities e.g. painting templates, construction paper, play dough recipe, etc. (optional)