



## Ready to Write

In order for young children to become successful writers, they must first be introduced to other fine motor skills before being asked to write. As with all stages of development, every child will progress through these skills at their own pace.

### What are fine motor skills?

Fine motor skills involve the small muscles of the body. These muscles need to be developed because they are required for more advanced tasks, such as grasping small objects, fastening clothing and writing. When we refer to fine motor skills in the context of writing/handwriting, we are typically referring to the small muscles in the hands and fingers.

Young children benefit from daily practice to help develop strength and dexterity in their hands and fingers before they can be expected to hold a pencil, never mind write letters. Children should develop these skills to successfully accomplish these types of tasks without frustration or anxiety.

We help children strengthen these muscles in the playroom providing fun, hands-on and developmentally appropriate experiences daily. These experiences also help children to develop an appropriate pencil grip when they are ready.

### What can parents/carers do to help?

Attached to this letter you will find a list of recommended activities that you can do at home with your child, using items you may already have in your home.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask a member of the EYC staff.