Writing Skills

You should encourage your child to hold a pencil between the index finger and thumb but don’t pressure the child into writing and drawing. This should always be seen as a fun activity.

Use different mediums such as crayon or felt tip pen.

Children will want to make pictures so make sure that you have plenty of paper handy. It is important that you establish immediately that wallpaper and walls in general are out of bounds.

With supervision, children soon understand that drawing can be a pleasurable experience.

Fat crayons are perfect for small fingers and felt tip pens allow for lovely sweeping movements.

Encourage bounces like joined up umbrellas and swings (an upside down version) across the paper. Let the crayon or pencil take a walk. Make angry lines and happy lines. Children can express themselves through drawings.

Motor skills

Some children have excellent fine motor skills but for some this needs development. In play situations you can provide this development and secure enjoyment at the same time.

Children love threading games and large laces with large beads or cotton reels provide hours of fun.

Clothes pegs afford a lot of finger and thumb control. Peg out the washing and use a number line. Try something as simple as attaching pegs to mum’s clothing.

Making pompoms, weaving or sewing or craft toys like magnetic or hammer tapped shapes on a board all provide useful motor skill training. 