



# Ready to Learn

A Guide for Parents and Guardians...

We have put together some ideas for being “Ready to Learn” that we hope you will find useful!

## Mark making and writing

Your child may or may not be interested in mark making or writing yet. Either is fine! Here are a few tips for developing your child’s mark making and writing skills.

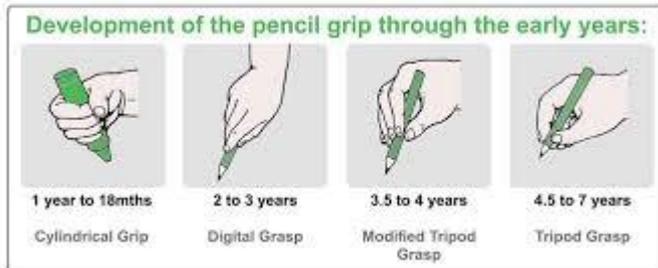
### Pencil grip

1

2

3

4



Typically children starting school in September will be using the ‘Modified Tripod Grasp’ (image 3) or maybe already using the ‘Tripod Grasp’ (image 4).

The tripod grasp is how your child will be encouraged to hold writing tools when they begin school.

### Writing letters

It would be great if you could practice with your child recognising their name and writing it.

Children start by tracing over a grown-up’s writing – highlighter or in dots, with a coloured dot to show them where to begin the letter. Nice and big please!

Once they have mastered this, they will begin to copy underneath writing.



We follow a specific **cursive handwriting style**. If you would like to practice please follow this link. <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-l-5929-cursive-alphabet-letter-form>

\*Please only use a capital letter at the beginning of a name.

### Emergent writing

Emergent Writing is the initial marks made on paper by children trying to imitate adult writing to communicate a message.

It might look like scribble or squiggle or dots and dashes or just random letters... but this is fine and please encourage to keep ‘writing’ like this! 😊

## Reading

Your child may or may not be reading yet. More than likely they won't be by the time they begin school in September. This is fine!

### Stories

By far the most important thing you can do between now and September is to promote and develop a love of books! Children love stories, whether it be having a story at bedtime, listening to a story online or just making up one of their own (it doesn't matter if they can't read the words!)

[www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/bedtime-stories](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/bedtime-stories)

[www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/cbeebies-storytime-app](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/cbeebies-storytime-app)



### Phonics

For those children who have started to show an awareness of letters and the sounds that they make (phonics) there are some great websites and online games to use and play.

- [www.jollylearning.co.uk/jolly-phonics](http://www.jollylearning.co.uk/jolly-phonics) is a website with videos on how to teach phonics and the actions that go with each phoneme (sound) and grapheme (letter shape).
- [www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks) is a website full of stories, games and videos which helps to build early phonic skills.
- [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk) is a website with lots of interactive games which help develop early phonics. \*Please start with PHASE 1.

## Maths

Maths is an important part of learning for all children in the Early Years and receiving a good grounding in maths is an essential life skill. As well as numeracy, it helps skills such as problem solving, understanding and using shapes and measure and developing their own spatial awareness.

There are some great online resources to explore...

- [www.nrich.maths.org/13371](http://www.nrich.maths.org/13371) is a website with lots and lots of great little interactive games about number, Shape and Space, Measures.



- Numberblocks-this can be accessed through iplayer or You Tube concentrating on numbers to 10. [www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks)