

Wonder Writers: Working with Your Young Writer at Home

Handwriting

Handwriting Practice:

- Come up with a list of as many words as you can that begin with the letter you are working on.
- Form letters in sand, finger paint, or with chalk on the sidewalk
- Try this variation of "Tic Tac Toe"; use letters you are working on instead of the usual "X" and "O". Children have fun with this and you can reinforce correct letter formation.
- Help your child to use two hands when writing! One hand holds the paper. One hand writes. This skill is key to efficient writing.

Improving Fine Motor Skills:

- Give your child a coloring book with lots of detail. MindWare publishes several books with mosaics, Celtic or Aztec designs.
- Games such as "Don't Spill the Beans", "Chairs", "Jenga" help a child to develop a delicate touch
- Try craft activities like beading, melting plastic beads, cross-stitch or sewing by hand.

Letter Spacing:

After writing a word, have child place index finger of non-dominant hand on the writing line to make a space. Start the next word to the right of the finger.

