

## Prewriting skills

### Potential Learning: DENI Preschool Curriculum

Developing increasing control of the fine movements of their fingers and hands links to children's emergent writing skills. They should have opportunities throughout the day to:

- play with equipment that can improve their fine motor skills such as pouring, building, threading, screwing and unscrewing, weaving, using the computer and working with malleable materials, for example by poking, squeezing, patting, rolling, pinching and twisting them; developing fine motor skills such as grasping, screwing, pinching, picking, holding and threading, are important for the development of eye and hand control.

### What you do:

Here are some activities that will support the Preschool Curriculum development described above which will support the parents to develop their child's writing skills before a pencil or pen is ever introduced to them.

Before we think about the act of writing we need to fine tune both our large and small body movements as this supports the control, we can achieve when writing.

Below is a list of some activities which can be easily tried in the home.

### More ideas:

1. Playdough – Support the rolling, pinching, prodding and manipulating
2. Lacing cards/Threading – These can be made at home with paper or card and your own shoelaces, thread breakfast cereal or pasta onto wool, string or shoe laces.
3. Throwing and Catching – Start with large items and move to smaller as the game develops
4. Tongs and Tweezers – Transferring items from one place to another using tongs and moving onto tweezers.
5. Tearing paper from top to bottom with each hand and then rolling that strip of paper into a ball using each hand alternately.