

DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPER PENCIL GRIP

Before formal printing/handwriting is introduced, the proper pencil grasp should be developed for efficient and cramp-free writing. This means only the thumb, index finger and middle finger ever touch or are touched by the pencil. The ring and little fingers curl under and never contact the pencil, crayon or marker.

1. Lay the pencil on the thumb side of the middle finger, just below the joint crease.
2. Curve the thumb around so the thumb pad (fingerprints) holds the pencil against the middle finger.
3. The index finger rests lightly on the top of the pencil where the paint meets the wood. It gives positional support without downward pressure.
4. The ring and little finger curl under to support the hand and glide it along across the page.
5. This posture results in a round opening created by the curved thumb, fingers and palm. The pencil rests mid-position between the open index and thumb web.

