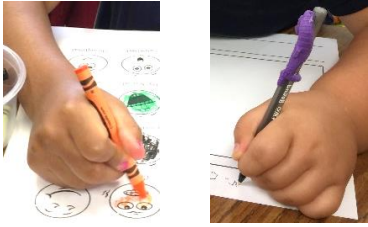
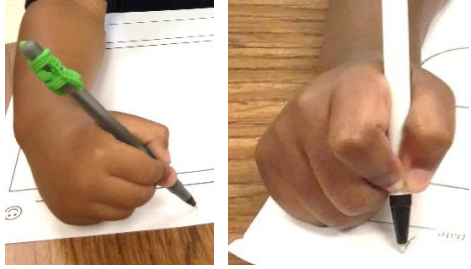
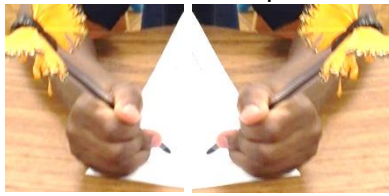
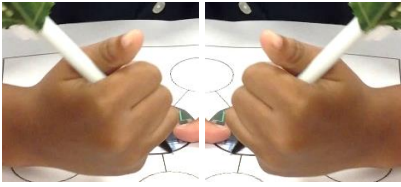
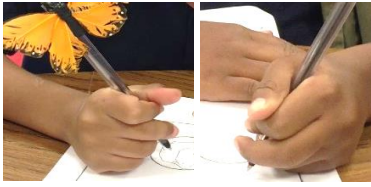
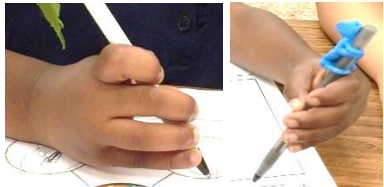


Developing an Appropriate Pencil Grip

Typical Progression of Pencil Grip Based on a Child's Age			
1 to 1 ½ years old	2 - 3 years old	3 ½ to 4 years old	4 ½ to 7 years old
Cylindrical Grasp 	Digital Grasp 	Modified Tripod Grasp 	Tripod Grasp 

TPT Red Stick Robin

What does a GOOD pencil grip look like?	
A good pencil grip has several components. • The pencil shaft is held between the index finger and the thumb of the dominant hand. • The middle finger sits along the side of the index finger and supports the pencil from underneath. • The shaft of the pencil rests on the hand comfortably. • The index finger, middle finger, and thumb control the movement of the pencil.	Tripod Grasp  Grasp is controlled by only 3 fingers. © 2020 Robin White Clark

What do some INCORRECT pencil grips look like? (Notice where the thumb is.)		
Thumb Wrap 	Quadrupod Grasp 	Supinate 
Transpalmar 	Interdigital Brace 	Index Grip 

Parents, teachers, and guardians should begin pencil grip guidance as soon as a child begins to scribble with chalk, crayons, markers, pens, and pencils on any surface. It is much easier to develop an appropriate pencil grip than to adjust or change one that is incorrect. When a child begins to show an interest in writing and drawing instruments, help that child go through the developmental stages at the appropriate ages to achieve the tripod grasp. It does not happen by chance. This adult effort must be supportive, intentional, and ongoing. A special treat is to use fun pens and pencils for added engagement.