

Pencil grips – writing aids

Some children may need extra help to develop an appropriate way of holding a pencil.

If your child is having difficulty with holding a pencil comfortably - below is a collection of writing aids that might help your child with their pencil grasp development.

Bear pen, Easy grip chalk, Finger chalk (from left to right)

You could try these at the earlier stages of pencil grasp development. Easy grip chalk and bear pen are for whole hand grasps.



With the finger crayon, your child inserts their index finger into the finger chalk and practises mark making / shapes, which will further develop their finger isolation skills.

When to try (suggestions)

- Uses a whole hand grasp.
- Does not like using pencils or pens.
- Generally used with younger children but could be used with older children where appropriate to do so.

Lyra Ferby pencil

This pencil can be helpful for children 3+ to begin drawing / writing with. It is short, thick and triangular shaped, which helps teach correct finger placement and is perfect for smaller hands.



Due to its high graphite content, the child does not have to exert a lot of pressure for lines to appear.

When to try (suggestions)

- For young children happy to use pencils.

Firesara top class pencil grip

This grip would benefit children struggling to tuck their fingers behind the pencil.



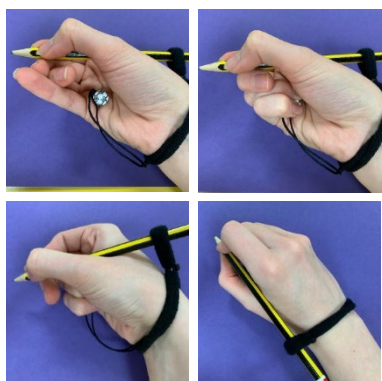
The child places their finger and thumb into the grooves, positioning them into a tripod grasp. Meanwhile, the remaining fingers are tucked behind by gripping the tail.

When to try (suggestions)

- For children who have difficulty keeping their fingers behind the pencil.
- For children wanting to hold a pencil with four or five fingers.

Handywriter

The focus of this pencil grip is to help the child learn to keep their middle, ring and little fingers tucked while holding a pencil.



When to try (suggestions)

- For children who have difficulty keeping fingers behind the pencil.
- For children wanting to hold a pencil with four or five fingers.

Cross guard ultra pencil grip

If your child has developed a thumb wrap grasp, try this one.



When to try (suggestions)

- For children who present with their thumb wrapped around the front of the pencil.

Two finger butterfly grip, One finger butterfly grip and One finger tree grip

These pencil grips can be used in a graded approach (easier to harder) with your child.



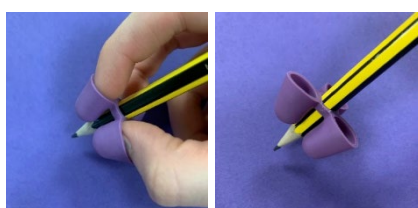
Your child should begin with the two finger grip (far left). This will help your child position their fingers into a tripod grip.

When to try (suggestions)

- A graded way way of learning to use a tripod grip.

Claw pencil grip

The claw pencil grip is another pencil grip that offers a clear visual on where to position their fingers, promoting the development towards a tripod grip.



This is for a child who is moving towards a tripod grip.

When to try (suggestions)

- For a child developing a functional way of holding a pencil but may need reminding more than others where to put their fingers on the pencil.

Twist and write pencil and Pen again

These pencils/ pens are beneficial to use if your child experiences hand pain when writing as they can take pressure away from finger joints.



When to try (suggestions)

- For children who have difficulty maintaining a functional grip on the pencil and also complain of pain.

Minimal support options

Triangular pencil grip

This pencil grip help to promote tripod grasp positioning, providing a thick and firm base of support.



These would be appropriate for a child who needs minimal support. Suitable for right and left handers.

When to try (suggestions)

- This one can promote a tripod grip for some.

Tri grip and go pencil grip

This pencil grip has three holes which offers a visual prompt on where to place your index finger and thumb, supporting the development of a tripod grasp.



These would be appropriate for a child who needs minimal support. Suitable for right and left handers.

When to try (suggestions)

- This one can promote a tripod grip for some.

Nuobesty silicone pencil grip, Solo pencil grip and the Stubbi grip

All of these pencil grips help to promote tripod grasp positioning. They are firm and are a non-slip material to help reduce finger slips.



These would be appropriate for a child who needs minimal support. Suitable for right and left handers.

When to try (suggestions)

- This one can promote a tripod grip for some.

Ushare owl soft pencil grip

Similar to the butterfly pencil grips, this offers a visual of where to place the finger and thumb so it is positioned into a tripod grip. This pencil grip is firmer than the other grips providing greater feedback.



When to try (suggestions)

- This one can promote a tripod grip for some.

Ultra pencil grip

This pencil grip promotes a tripod grasp, as well as provide a thicker base of support which can help reduce increased pencil to page pressure.



Available in regular and large.

When to try (suggestions)

- This one can promote a tripod grip for some.

Bumpy grip

This pencil grip help to promote tripod grasp positioning. It has a bumpy texture which offers additional tactile input which some children may like.

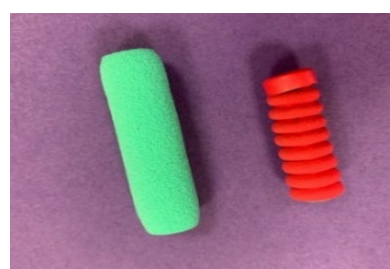


When to try (suggestions)

- For children who can hold the pencil with four fingers on the appropriate space on the pencil but may find it uncomfortable to do so.

Foam pencil grip and a Ribbed pencil grip

Both of these pencil grips help to promote a tripod grasp. Due to the texture of the grip they help reduce the risk of finger slips.



The ribbed pencil grip offers some more tactile input which some children may like.

These would be appropriate for a child who needs minimal support. Suitable for right and left handers.

When to try (suggestions)

- For those looking for a little more comfort.

Stabilo easy ergo pencil and a Stabilo easy ergo pen

Both of these pencils/ pen help to promote tripod grasp positioning for those that do not need a lot of adjustment to their grip. They have a grip zone made from a non-slip material which will offer a child with a weaker grasp extra support for their finger positioning.



They are also break resistant and the pencil has an extra thick lead tip. Make sure you purchase the correct version as they come in specific left or right options.

When to try (suggestions)

- For children who do not need a lot adjustment to their grip but maybe looking for additional comfort or prompting for positioning.

Foam tubing on pencil

You could add foam tubing which will make the pencil or pencil thicker meaning the child may grip the pencil/pen less tightly.



When to try (suggestions)

- For children looking for additional comfort

Maped Visio Left Handed Pen

This is a pen made for left handers. The pen offers more visibility for the writer due to the pen shape.



It has an anti-slip material on the pen to help reduce finger slips and has finger, thumb indentations promoting correct finger positioning.

Due to the fingers being placed further away from the tip and it having fast drying ink, there is less chance of smudging.

When to try (suggestions)

- A specific pen for a child who is left handed.

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BHCCOTPG102022