



kids therapy made simple

# Pre-Writing Skills

## What are Pre-Writing Skills?

Coloring, drawing, writing...we all just learn how to do it, right? Well, sort of. There are actually Pre-Writing Skills consisting of lines and strokes that a child needs to master and know how to complete before they learn how to write the alphabet.










If you think about it, all letters, both upper case and lower case, are made up of lines, strokes, arcs and circles. In order for a child to successfully master the alphabet, they must first master the sequence of fundamental skills.

Additionally, a child must develop the building blocks necessary to engage in the Pre-Writing skill development. These building blocks are comprised of strength and movements associated with gross motor, fine motor and visual motor/perception skills.

## Pre-Writing Building Blocks

Hand & Finger Strength	Allows necessary muscle power for controlled movement
Hand Dominance	Consistent use of one hand for task performance
Hand Division	Ability to isolate fingers and thumb to allow for manipulation and stabilization
Upper Body Strength	Strength & stability at shoulder to allow for controlled hand movements
Pencil Grasp	How pencil is held allowing for age appropriate pencil movements
Crossing Mid-line	Ability to body parts from one side of the body to the other (crossing the imaginary line)
Bilateral Integration	Ability to use both sides of your body together in a coordinated way
Visual Perception	Brain's ability to make sense of what the eye sees
Hand-Eye Coordination	Ability to process information received from the eyes to control, guide and direct the hands in the performance of a task

## Pre-Writing Skills

	Scribble	1-2 yrs: random/spontaneous
	Vertical Line	1-2 yrs: imitates 3 yrs: copies/masters
	Horizontal Line	2.5 yrs: imitates 3 yrs: copies/masters
	Circle Shape	2.5 yrs: imitates 3 yrs: copies/masters
	Cross Shape	3.5 yrs: imitates 4 yrs: copies/masters
	Square Shape	4 yrs: imitates 5 yrs: copies/masters
	Right/Left Diagonal Lines	4.5 yrs: imitates 5 yrs: copies/masters
	Triangle Shape	5 yrs: imitates 6 yrs: copies/masters
	X Shape	5 yrs: imitates 6 yrs: copies/masters