

# Early Childhood Stages of Pencil Grasp Development



**FISTED GRIP**  
1-2 years old

Children often hold their writing tool like a dagger, scribbling using their whole arm.



OR



**DIGITAL PRONATE GRIP**  
2-3 years old

All fingers are holding the writing tool but the wrist is turned so that the palm is facing down towards the page. Movement now comes mostly from the elbow. Children should start being able to copy a horizontal, vertical and circular line.



**4 FINGER GRIP**  
3-4 years old

4 fingers are held on the writing tool. Movement is mostly from the wrist and the hand and fingers move as one.



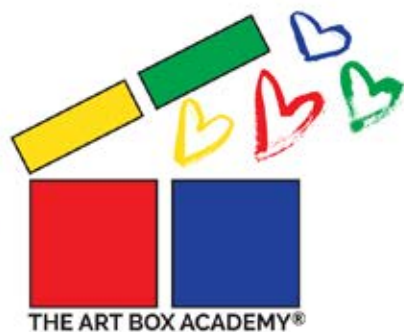
**STATIC TRIPOD GRIP**  
4-6 years old

This is a 3 finger grasp, where the thumb, index finger and middle finger work as one unit.



**DYNAMIC TRIPOD GRIP**  
By 6 or 7 years old

Using only 3 fingers to hold the writing tool. This is the ideal grip to help move the pencil efficiently, accurately.



THE ART BOX ACADEMY®