



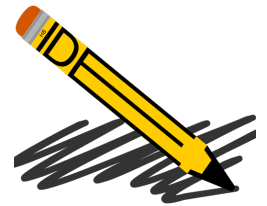
# SMART PARENTING *for* CHILD

Dr. Godbole's Chiranjeev Child Development Center

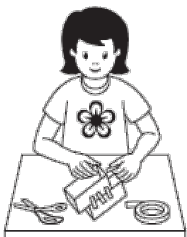
## Pre-writing Skills!

Child's early attempts at writing certainly won't look much like words, but his scribbles, lines, and drawings are all helping him get ready to learn his ABCs.

- ✚ **12 to 18 months:** Many children are able to grasp a crayon and shove it around on a piece of paper when they're about 12 months old. By 18 months, your little one will probably be a scribbling pro, creating a gallery's worth of drawings.
- ✚ **19 to 24 months:** Toddler's scribbles will start taking discernible shape now, though he doesn't yet form letters and numbers. He can't hold a crayon steadily enough yet for that. Draw a single line and he can easily imitate it.
- ✚ **25 to 30 months:** Child moves from mere scribbles to true art; he starts adding colors and trying to represent real objects and things. A drawing may look like a solid mass of green ink, but for it's a snake in the jungle.
- ✚ **31 to 36 months:** Toddler will start making circular strokes; will be able to write a few letters. A few will start writing their first name, around or just past their third birthday. Many don't, though, and that's okay.
- ✚ **37 to 60 months:** Sometime before his/her fifth birthday, your child will learn to make horizontal lines, to copy a circle and a square, and to draw people (probably start with stick figures and add on curves as he gets better at it).



A child up to age five who is not developing new fine motor skills for that age may have a developmental disability like cerebral palsy, mental retardation, blindness, developmental coordination disorder. They may have difficulty in holding a pencil, throwing a ball, having a hard time with clothes that have buttons or zippers, having poor handwriting, being clumsy.



Early detection, physiotherapy and stimulating with fine skills activities like clay molding, finger painting, palm painting, thumb impression-designs, sewing beads, cutting & crumpling a newspaper, connecting the dots, tracing a stencil, scissor-work, handkerchief folding and so on.

**Writing is a developmental skill that does not have a formal timetable.**