

DEVELOPMENTAL STAGES IN PRE-WRITING

The rate of progression through each stage varies with each child. The key to progress is having lots of practice and experience at each step. The focus is on writing readiness not handwriting.

<u>STAGE</u>	<u>PERFORMANCE</u>	<u>SUGGESTIONS</u>
Explorative or Destructive	mouths or crinkles paper ↓ bangs crayons on paper ↓	allow child to play with different toys, take them apart, stacking
Scribbling	scribbles randomly  ↓ scribbles spontaneously in a horizontal or vertical direction ↓   scribbles in a circular direction 	provide lots of blank and colouring picture paper, encourage and assist frequently use hand over hand movement
Imitation* - watching the trainer and them attempting to reproduce product	imitates a horizontal / vertical scribble ↓   imitates a circular scribble  ↓ imitates a horizontal / vertical line ↓  	try making the hand movement in the air from left to right and up and down use a pegboard to make lines and shapes: a row (horizontal or vertical), progress to a circle, square, etc.
Copy* - child receives no visual cues on the process of the drawing, is just told to "make one like this"	imitates a circular line ↓ copies a line  ↓   copies a circle  ↓ imitates a cross → copies a cross  ↓ imitates a diagonal line → copies a diagonal line   ↓ imitates → copies a square  ↓ imitates → copies an X  ↓ imitates → copies a triangle  ↓ imitates → copies a diamond 	start with dots and ask the child to connect them to make lines and shapes

*Note the difference between imitation and copy