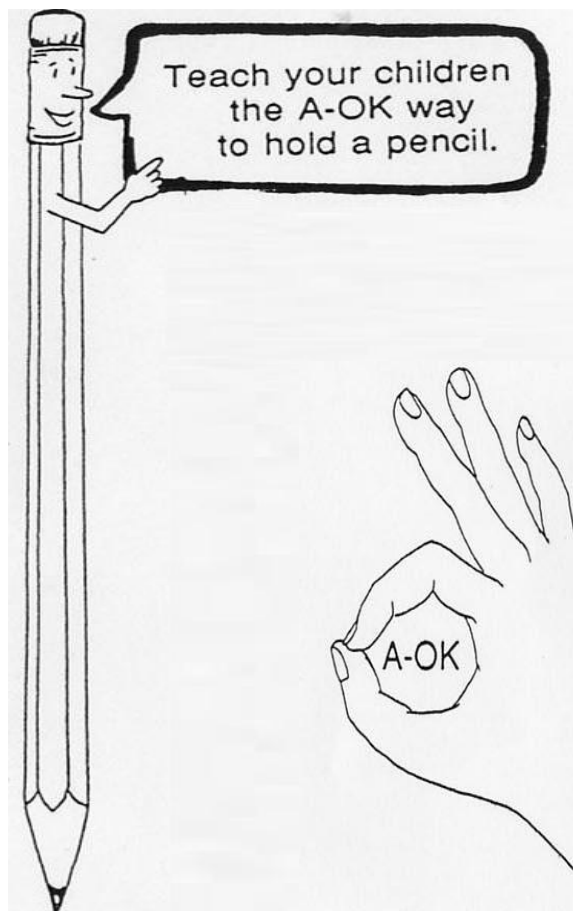


Mature Tripod Grasp

The mature tripod grasp maximizes the range of motion on the child's fingers and the writing tool, which is necessary for successful writing. With the thumb and fingers in the correct places, downward and upward pressures are equalized. Little effort is required to keep the pencil in place and only moderate pressure is needed to make legible marks on the paper. Encourage your child to keep his/her fingers on the painted part of the pencil, away from the lead, so as not to block the child's view of his/her written work.



- Only the index finger goes on top of the pencil.
- The pad of the thumb rests on the side of the pencil.
- The thumb and index finger do not overlap each other, and are only slightly bent.
- The middle finger is the longest and strongest. The pencil rests on top of that finger, just forward of its first joint.
- The remaining two fingers are curled into the palm of the hand and rest lightly on the desk surface.
- The wrist is slightly extended.
- The pencil shaft rests in the web space between the thumb and index finger (the eraser end of the pencil points over the writing hand)

