

OT PRE-REFERRAL FORM: INTERVENTION STRATEGIES



POOR WRITING POSITION/ NON-FUNCTIONAL GRASP: (1st grade or older)

Children hold their pencil a variety of different ways. If a student uses a modified grasp that allows for the fingers to move freely to form letters, he/she is holding the pencil adequately. There is a problem if: all five fingers are on the pencil, if the wrist is flexed (bent toward the palm), if the elbow is floating off the table surface, or if fingers are hooked around pencil.

Younger students should be using pre-school crayons, primary markers, sidewalk chalk to draw and scribble—Pre-K is too early in the typical development of the hand to force the use of pencils—can lead to grasp problems in the later grades.

	Provided a vertical surface or three ring binder slant board.
	Provided pencil grips (specifically for students 6 years or older).
	Had the student hold a penny, paper clip or other small object against the palm with the ring finger and pinky, leaving the other three fingers available for proper placement (tripod grasp) on the pencil/pen.
	<p>Engaged student in activities that emulate the position of a tripod grasp such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> games and activities that require pinch <input type="checkbox"/> tweezer games <input type="checkbox"/> using pencil grips <input type="checkbox"/> manipulating nuts and bolts <input type="checkbox"/> twisting on/ off caps such as on a tube of toothpaste <input type="checkbox"/> using 1/2"- 3/4" chalk pieces or broken crayons to color and make lines <input type="checkbox"/> lacing activities <input type="checkbox"/> using an eye dropper (e.g. with food coloring on a paper towel) <input type="checkbox"/> clothespin activities
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