



Tonacliffe Primary School Handwriting Workshop

Here are some ideas you can do with your child to help their handwriting development:

Gross Motor Skills

Let your child play outdoors whatever the weather! Let them wear their wellies and jump in puddles on a rainy day, kick through the autumn leaves, make patterns in the snow etc.

Visit the park regularly to let your child swing, climb and slide. Consolidate the vocabulary of movement by talking about the movements your child makes, such as going round and round, making curves, springing up and sliding down, making long, slow movements or quick, jumpy movements.

Walk to and from school, walk on the moors, walk through Healey Dell.

Visit the beach, make large patterns in the sand (talk about the shapes made – curved straight), build sandcastles, jump over the waves!

Dance and move to music! Keep to a steady beat.

Make large marks outdoors using chunky chalks.

Fine Motor Skills

Let your child make patterns using pegboards and complete jigsaws.

Provide sewing, threading and weaving activities.

Provide woodworking tools – pliers, screwdrivers, hammers.

Let your child help you cook by peeling and chopping vegetables.

Use finger rhymes, counting fingers, playing with words and sounds, etc.

Provide small construction toys – Lego etc.

Let them enjoy sand and water play and include sieving, pouring, picking up toys using tools, etc.

Let your child practise scissor skills, cutting out shapes – use old newspaper and magazine etc.

To develop the pincer movement: show your child how to use tweezers to pick up and sort sequins, small beads, etc., sprinkle coloured sand, glitter, salt, etc. on pictures.

Provide your child with shaving foam to make big patterns on tiles in the bathroom or smaller patterns on a tray.

Provide your child with paints, finger paints, a mixture of brushes etc. for making big patterns on differently shaped and textured paper. Talk about the patterns and shapes they make.

Encourage your child to strengthen their fingers by using clay, play dough, plasticine for modelling. They can make letter shapes and patterns using the modelling media.

Give your child thick paintbrushes and water to paint patterns on walls, fences, etc.

Let your child make marks using chalk, felt tips, chunky pencils and crayons.