
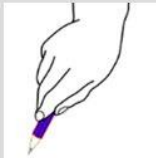

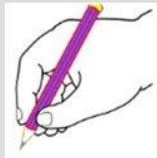


The stages of grip development

16-26 months	22-36 months	30-50 months	40-60 months
 <p>Fisted Grasp and Fist grip.</p> <p>Children younger than one year old typically reach for and hold items with their entire fist. When using a pencil or crayon, a young child will hold the item in their closed fist with their little finger closest to the paper and thumb on top.</p>	 <p>Palmer Grasp and Four-finger grip.</p> <p>As children gain fine motor control, they typically progress from using a fist grip to a four-fingered grip. With a four-fingered grip, a child uses all four fingers together to hold an object against his thumb. This grip gives a child greater control when holding small item.</p>	 <p>Five finger Grasp and Pincer grip.</p> <p>Once children develop strong fine motor skills, a true pincer grip emerges. With this grip, a child uses only his thumb and index finger to hold and manipulate small objects. With a pincer grip, a child can easily twist dials, turn the pages of a book, open and close a zip, and use crayons or pencils with precision.</p>	 <p>Tripod Grasp (Three finger)</p> <p>Most children reach a mature three-finger grip by age 5 or 6. In this hand grip, a utensil is held between thumb, index and middle fingers. They might have tense fingers at first and continue to use wrist movements as they did with the five-finger grip, but they will eventually gain more fine motor control and will start to use finger movements to make shapes and letters.</p>