

# **Occupational Therapy Tip Sheet**

## PREPARING FOR GRADE TWO



Below are practice ideas to help your child prepare for grade two. Your child should be developing improved control and accuracy using a pencil. Encourage detailed drawings and smaller, more organized printing as they complete the below activities.

## Pencil grasp:

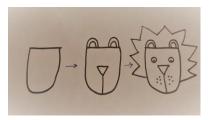
- Pinch the pencil with thumb, index and middle finger.
- Pencil should rest in the web space at the base of the thumb.
- Movement to control the pencil should start to come from the fingers rather than the whole hand.





#### Drawing:

- Draw more complex shapes and pictures, including diagonals.
- Step-by-step drawing helps develop drawing skills. Use images with more details.



# Cutting:

- Cut complex shapes (stars or other figures) that have several direction changes.
- Keep elbows "glued to sides" and thumbs up on the scissors and the paper.
- Right-handed <sup>™</sup> children should cut in a counter-clockwise direction.
- Left-handed <sup>₩</sup> children should cut in a clockwise direction.

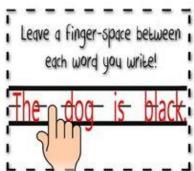




### Printing:

- Practice printing inside a box or printing lines. Printing size should be getting smaller.
- Print letters that are tall, small and hang below the bottom line and use a finger space between words.
- Print full sentences using upper and lowercase letters.





### **Workbook Suggestions for printing practice:**

- 1. Learning Without Tears (www.lwtears.com): workbooks available for purchase in both English and French.
- 2. Printing Like a Pro!: printing practice sheets can be downloaded for free in both English and French (http://www.childdevelopment.ca/SchoolAgeTherapy/SchoolAgeTherapyClassResources.aspx).