

Fine Motor Developmental Milestones

Three to Four Years Old

Scissors Skills

- Snips at paper

Pre-Graphic Skills and Grasp

- Holding a pencil with thumb and fingers on opposite sides of the pencil
- Recognizing and naming letters
- Tracing on thick lines
- Copying a circle and imitating a cross

Visual Motor Integration Skills

- Building a tower of approximately 9 small blocks
- Copying block designs up to 6 blocks
- Completing 4-6 piece interlocking puzzles
- Threading a sequence of small beads onto a string

Other:

- Dressing independently including large buttons, socks and shoes
- Using one hand consistently for most activities
- Using the non-dominant hand to assist and stabilize objects

Four to Five Years Old

Scissor Skills

- Cutting along a line continuously

Pre-Graphic Skills and Grasp

- Holding pencil with a tripod grasp (3pt grasp)
- Forming pre-printing shapes (I, -, +, square, |, X, triangle)
- Colouring inside the lines
- Colouring an entire picture
- Writing their name and copying letters
- Tracing on a line with control

Visual Motor Integration Skills

- Copying 9 block models
- Completing 8-12-piece interlocking puzzles

Other:

- Using a preferred hand for most activities
- Dressing and undressing independently (excluding shoe laces)
- Demonstrating understanding of left-right progression of print

Five to Six Years Old

Scissor Skills

- Cutting out simple shapes

Pre-Graphic Skills and Grasp

- Holding a pencil with a 3 fingered grasp and generating movement from fingers (not wrist)
- Writing numbers 1-10 independently
- Self-generating letters independently
- Copying a triangle
- Colouring within the lines
- Completing cut and paste projects

Visual Motor Integration Skills

- Completing a 20-piece puzzle

Other

- Following left-right progression of print

Six to Seven Years

Scissor Skills

- Cutting neatly around shapes

Pre-Graphic Skills and Grasp

- Forming letters and numbers correctly
- Writing on lines
- Pencil control
- Endurance for writing tasks
- Drawing detailed pictures with recognizable objects

Other

- Tying shoe laces

Seven to Eight Years Old

- Writing neatly
- Maintain legibility of handwriting for entirety of a story
- Completing more complex puzzles