

Small Physical Skills during Assessments



Almost all assessments include an opportunity to build. Provide opportunities at home to build and balance using various construction toys. They may be asked to build something specific e.g. a castle.



Playdough is often provided during an assessment. Start by making the playdough together. Manipulating the dough by squashing squeezing and pulling it, all help develop muscles in their fingers, which is a pre-requisite to writing. They might be asked to create something specific e.g. a bug.



As dexterity and fine motor skills are a pre-requisite to writing, children are often presented with threading and scissors to assess their ability. Practise by threading pipe cleaners through grills, putting pasta onto uncooked spaghetti and cutting playdough with plastic scissors. More ideas are available in the Physical Development Star.