



Dominant Hand

Allow your child to choose their dominant hand by themselves. Rather than putting scissors, pens, paint brushes etc. into their hand, allow them to pick them up themselves. They may alternate for a while, or use both, but will eventually choose for themselves.

Scissor Skills

Begin with plastic scissors and playdough for a 'no-risk' start. Move on to making snips in paper or interesting objects such as leaves. Have both left and right-handed scissors until they have chosen their dominant hand. Drawing a smiley face on their thumb or thumb nail, helps in supporting the correct hold. They should be able to see the 'face' when they are snipping.



Pen Grip

Before children even hold a pencil, they need the dexterity to do so. This is accomplished by first building their large muscles, before moving on to fine motor support, such as squeezing sponges, threading beads and spraying water bottles. This will then lead to being able to hold a pencil comfortably.

