



WHAT ARE

FINE MOTOR COORDINATION & VISUAL MOTOR INTEGRATION SKILLS?

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FINE MOTOR SKILLS: Involve the use of precise and coordinated movements of the fingers and hands.

VISUAL MOTOR INTEGRATION: Is the coordination of hand movements based upon the perception of visual information. It is the execution of hand movements guided by what the child is seeing.

»» **TOOL USE:** This is an age appropriate ability to grasp, hold, and release classroom tools (pencils, scissors, rulers, erasers) and manipulate school objects (paper, books). A student needs adequate strength, control, dexterity, and visual monitoring for success in this area.

- **ACADEMIC IMPACT:** A typical school day requires nearly ongoing use of a student's hands for performing school related activities. Intact fine motor skills will have a significant positive impact on a child's academic and functional success at school.

»» **DRAWING/PRE WRITING:** Drawing Skills involve the use of a tool (pencil, crayon, marker, pen, or chalk) to create a two dimensional picture, design, or image on a surface. The drawing may represent a person, animal, place, or object. Through drawings a child can share information from their mind. This is unique to humans.

- Pre-Writing skills involve a child tracing and forming proper strokes in the correct sequence and orientation for future printing.
- **ACADEMIC IMPACT:** The ability to form vertical, horizontal, and diagonal, lines is an essential foundation skill for the future development of printing. The ability to draw is one measure of child's cognitive status; drawing is an important part of the academic curriculum.

»» **HANDWRITING:** is a complex process of recording language by hand, often by using paper and a pen or pencil. The production of legible and efficient handwriting requires intact skills in the areas of postural control, eye hand coordination, visual perception, fine motor control, ocular control, and pencil grasp.

- **ACADEMIC IMPACT:** A child's handwriting abilities have significant influence on their academic performance.