FINGER WORKS/FINE MOTOR GROUP





Goal: To build pincer strength and grip strength

<u>Activities:</u>

- Squeeze Ball: Warm up your hands by squeezing a ball or fidget 10 times with each hand!
- Bubble wrap: Remember to only use your pinch fingers!
- Moving pompoms or cotton balls with tweezers: Have a pompom moving race!
- Clothes Pins: Pin them on a friend's clothing, then let a friend pin them on your clothing!
- Top spinning race: Spin a top for as long as you can. See who can spin it for the longest!
- Rip paper to make a collage!
- Make designs with masking tape on the floor: You can only use your hands to rip the tape. Don't forget to clean up and peel the tape off the floor to make a big tape ball!



<u>Goal:</u> To build bilateral (two hands together) coordination skills

<u>Activities:</u>

- Wind-up toy race: Make a start and finish line with tape, then wind up your toys and race! Remember to clean up by picking the tape off of the table.
- Playdoh/Theraputty: roll a ball, make a snake, make a pancake, make a dinosaur with spikes!
- Beading, Lacing: Make a cool bracelet or wrist band
- Make pipecleaner art/Wiki Stick art: What can you make?
- Cutting Activities
- Have a drumming group: You make a rhythm and have the group copy you. Let each group member make their own rhythm and have the group copy them.



Goal: To improve in-hand manipulation skills

Activities:

• PENCIL OLYMPICS

- Finger warm-ups such as Pencil Olympics can be done prior to beginning paper and pencil tasks.
- **Baton Twirling Pencil Trick**: Spin pencil between index/third finger and third/fourth finger.
- Rocking and Rolling Pencil Trick: Hold pencil between index and third finger rock pencil back and fourth use your wrist to make it spin.
- Try **Tightrope Walking** Hold the pencil in a tripod grasp. Walk your fingers up and down the pencil with your fingers and thumb.
- Dot-Erase Race: Pick a corner of your paper, draw a dot, crawl up the pencil to the eraser, flip then erase. Repeat. Do as many dot/erase sequences in 30 seconds.
- Play Pencil Tug-of-war: grasp the pencil with a tripod grasp with your right hand if you are right-handed. Try to pull the pencil out of your hand with your left hand. Resist the pull!
- Coin flipping game: flip a quarter and guess if it's heads or tails
- Sorting coins: Sort different sized coins into different containers with slots
- Pegboards: Copy patterns on a pegboard
- Guess what's in the magic bag! Without looking, put your hand into a magic bag, pick up a toy and using just your hands, try to guess what the toy is! Once you make a guess, pull the toy out to see what it is!



Goal: To build shoulder stability

<u>Activities:</u>

- Theraband activities: stretch theraband across your chest; step on one end, hold the other end with your hands, then do bicep curls; sit across from your partner, each person holds an end, then pull back and fourth. Try these 5-10 times!
- Animal walking: crab walk, bear walk, soldier crawl, snake slither, make up your own!
- Wheel barrel walking
- Drawing/colouring on your tummy
- Chalk board/white board drawing: Draw a picture or have a drawing/erase race with a friend! One person draw, while the other person erases!
- Make up a ribbon dance: Make big circles, little circles and waves. Try this with music



Goal: To improve visual-motor integration skills

Activities:

- Warm up hands with Pencil Olympics! (See Tuesday Activities)
- Handwriting Without Tears: Get Set for School Workbook
- Copy Chalk Board Pictures: Draw a simple picture and have the group copy yours! (Try Directed drawing). Remember to use small chalk bits!
- Dot-to-Dots
- Colouring: colour by numbers
- Games: Connect 4, Jenga
- Geoboards: copy elastic band patterns
- Make a playing card castle
- Copy Lego or block models