
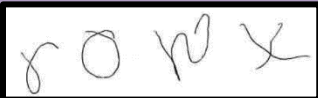
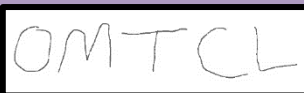
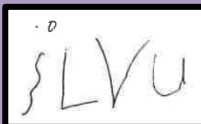

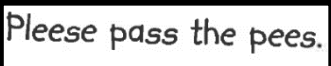


New Mexico PreK Becoming a Writer

Through appropriate and meaningful writing experiences, children learn about the concepts of print and how print works. Young children should have a variety of writing materials and writing opportunities available to them throughout the day, where they can experience writing with an adult as well as on their own. When children see others use a pen or pencil to write, they want to do the same. This early “writing” is a type of exploratory play (Paulson & Moats, 2018). **(EI 2.1 a Fine Motor Tools; 8.3 Writing; 27.1 Focus)**

Typical Development	Stages of Writing Development	Activities to Promotes Writing
Toddlers and preschoolers (age 2-5)	Scribbling: Irregular, horizontal, or wavy lines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Picture Story/Word Story Strategy (modeling the phase of writing just above the level of each child) Develop motor skills by connecting the dots and tracing alphabet letters Use a highlighter and have children write within the letter Break crayons in half to support children’s grasp Put writing paper on the wall to allow students to write Have children use sticky notes to write messages they need to tell you Writing & recognizing their name through sign-up sheets, attendance, centers, drawings, or letters. Making a list while in different centers, such as a menu in dramatic play or an animal list in science center. Provide opportunities to make cards, letters, or notes to family members, friends, or pen pals. Allow children to write instructions for classroom (i.e., make signs, labels, or class rules) Make a list of items needed at the store Provide extension activities for read-alouds
	Mock Letters: Individual marks that resemble letters 	
	Random Letter Strings: Letters written without any connection to letter-sound 	
Late preschool to kindergarten	Semi-Phonetic: Beginning matching of letters and speech sounds 	
Kindergarten to second grade	Phonetic: Close letter-sound connection 	
Third grade and beyond	Conventional: Orthographically and grammatically correct writing 	

References:

Paulson, L. H., & Moats, L. C. (2018). *LETRS for early childhood educators*. Boston, MA: Cambium Learning.

PED. (2019). New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines.