

# YOUR CHILD'S Fine Motor MILESTONES

## 0-6 MONTHS

- At this stage, expect your child to predominantly use a palmar grasp.
- By 5-7 months, they may begin to transfer objects between hands.
- They will typically use a raking grasp to pick up small objects.

## 6-12 MONTHS

- At this stage, your child is likely demonstrating thumb opposition to pick up small objects like Cheerios.
- They are learning how to release objects from their grip in a controlled way.
- Your child may begin to isolate their index finger to point at toys.

## 12-18 MONTHS

- At this stage, your child is able to release an object and pick it up again.
- They can likely turn single thick pages of a book.
- Your child should be holding their own cup and drink, with some spilling.
- You might start noticing improved use of lead and assist hands.

## 18-24 MONTHS

- At this stage, your child can build a 4 to 6 block tower.
- They can likely open loosely wrapped packages or containers.
- They may exhibit a digital pronate grasp when holding a crayon.
- They are likely exploring their pre-writing skills by making marks or scribbles with a crayon or pencil.
- They can manipulate a spoon with a palmar grasp.

## 2-3 YEARS

- At this stage, your child should be able to remove a screw/twist on container lid.
- They can likely string 2-4 beads.
- Your child is likely imitating circular, vertical and horizontal strokes on paper.
- They are likely demonstrating simple scissor skills like snipping and cutting across a piece of paper.

## 3-4 YEARS

- At this stage, your child is likely demonstrating a more precise static tripod grasp on writing utensils.
- They can position a crayon/marker using simple rotation.
- They are likely opening zip lock bags, simple containers, and lunch boxes.
- They should be using one hand consistently for **most** activities

## 4-5 YEARS

- At this stage, your child should demonstrate consistent hand preference.
- They should be stabilizing the paper when writing/drawing/cutting.
- Their writing/drawing grasp should be developing from static to dynamic.
- They are likely utilizing a tripod grasp.
- They should be able to manipulate small objects in their fingers without dropping.

## 5-6 YEARS

- At this stage, your child should be developing a complex scissor grasp.
- They should be cutting out simple shapes.
- They are likely able to rotate a pencil for eraser use.
- They are eating with a fork, spoon, and maybe a flatware knife.
- You can expect your child's drawings to grow in accuracy and detail.