

4. To be able to write their own name

Milestone 4.1

The child can use the muscles in their hands and arms to make big movements and bring together hand and eye movements to fix on and make contact with objects.

Milestone 4.2

The child can make random marks with their fingers and some tools. The child can engage in a variety of ways to make marks, i.e. making marks in a variety of media.

Milestone 4.3

The child has control of body movements to cross their midline in a bi-lateral movement. i.e. use alternate feet, tapping knees with opposite hands.

Possible sequence of learning:

- Claps and waves
- Enjoys nursery rhymes
- Moves body in a variety of ways (crawling, waving, pushing self-up)
- Climbs up a small step
- Uses large gross motor skills to wave flags and streamers
- Explores different materials and tools
- Pushes and pulls objects with intent
- Walks up and down stairs with support
- Uses whole hand grasp to hold pen/writing tools
- Builds independently with a range of appropriate resources (large blocks)
- Draws spontaneous circles, scribbles and dots using fingers/tools
- Holds a book and turns pages several at a time
- Shows an interest in written print
- Threads using a variety of large resources
- Manipulates playdough
- Uses whole hand grasp with more control
- Uses one handed tools and equipment, making snips in paper
- Shows an interest in a range of tools to mark makes (pen, brush, fingers)
- Gives meaning to marks
- Understands written print has meaning
- Uses a dominant hand

Milestone 4.4

The child makes more small controlled movements and can draw lines and circles. The child can distinguish between these marks i.e. line, circle, zig zag etc. The child can use anti clockwise movements and retrace vertical lines. The child is familiar with language of directionality such as up, down, round and round.

- Feeds self with spoon to mouth with control
- Holds pencil using emerging tripod grip
- Draws recognisable objects (simple)
- Recognises own name and some familiar letters/logos
- Manipulates a variety of resources with increasing control and intent
- Starts to form recognisable letters, uses capital and lowercase letters
- Shows control using one handed tools
- Understands directional movements up, down, left and right
- Kicks a large ball with intent
- Catches a ball
- Builds using smaller blocks
- Claps to a simple beat of a song
- Understands print is written and read from left to right
- Starts to mark make anti-clockwise movements and retrace lines
- Uses alternate feet to move in a variety of ways
- Uses a comfortable grip with good control when using pens and pencils.
- Draws more complexed pictures (eg of a house)
- Navigates space and obstacles successfully (eg bike, running)
- Climbs using good upper body strength
- Uses directional language
- Sounds out initial sounds of names, objects, words
- Writes in the correct direction (left to right)

Final Milestone

The child can hold their writing tool with a comfortable tripod grip. The child can write their name clearly with correct directionality using a capital letter at the start.