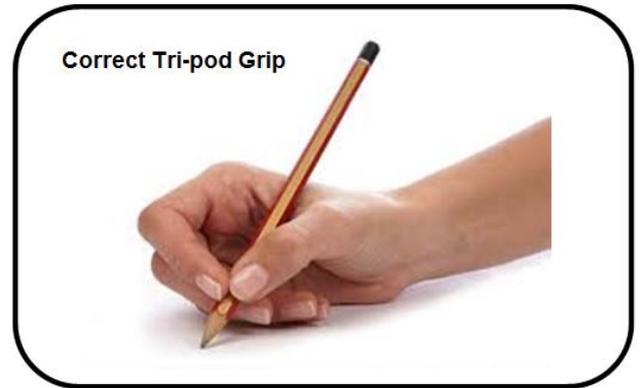


Tips for teaching your child the proper pencil grip

1. Demonstrate the proper pencil grip for your child before handing him/her the pencil, saying aloud where you are placing your fingers. Then show your child how you are able to easily control the pencil with that grip.



2. Place the pencil into your child's hand and position his/her fingers on the pencil. First have him/her pinch the pencil with his/her thumb and index finger approximately half an inch above the point (make it fun by saying "show me your crabby claws").



3. Then have them "rest" the pencil on their middle finger (make it fun by saying that the crab is having a rest on a rock).



4. Direct your child to rest the side of his/her hand closest to his/her little finger on the paper and move the pencil with only his/her thumb and index finger. Show him/her how to use his/her non-dominant hand (the one without the pencil) to hold the paper steady while his/her dominant hand (the one with the pencil) moves the pencil.

