# Writing tips

3 to 4 years

- Play throwing and catching games together.
- Let your child help you around the house, pegging out clothes (the family's or their toys), using a dustpan and brush, washing up, wiping the table and squeezing out the sponge as they clean the windows.
- Cook together - let your child peel and chop, mash up food, put cake mixture into cases or spread butter on bread.
- Have lots of different materials to cut and stick so your child can make pictures, patterns and models.
- Build with blocks and interlocking blocks, like Lego, to make towers and buildings.
- Let your child cut out pictures from magazines, comics, catalogues and old cards.
- Make people, animals and other objects from play dough.

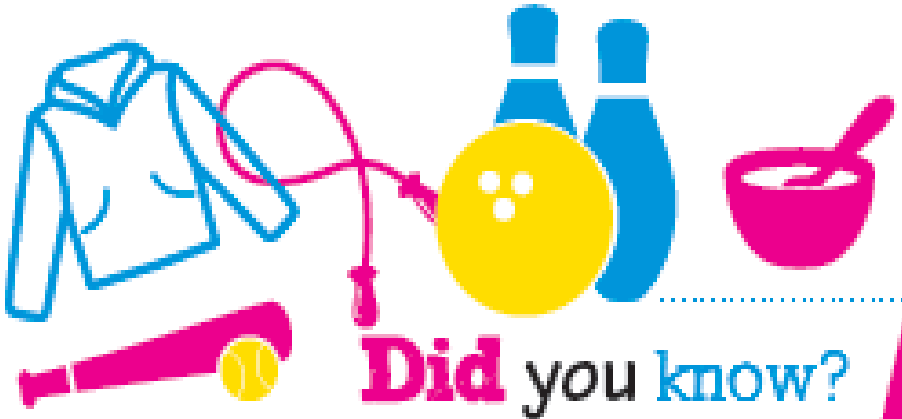



## "What I like"

- Making cards and sending messages to my friends and family (or Father Christmas) and making lists.
- Drawing and painting pictures and patterns.
- Cutting and sticking.
- Making my own books.

## "What I can do"

- Start to know that writing means something and I'm saying what my marks mean.
- Recognise my name and some familiar words and signs.
- Write some letters in my name and other familiar words, like dad.
- Dress and undress myself and I am beginning to fasten and unfasten zips and buttons.
- Concentrate and sit still for longer.



## Did you know?

Your child needs to practise making small marks using a pencil or crayon. Shoulder and arm muscles are developing and using their hands and fingers to make different movements will help them to strengthen their wrist, hand and finger muscles.

