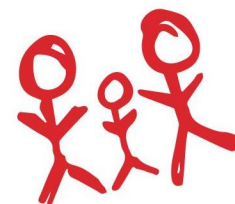




**BRINGING ACTIVE
LEARNING HOME**



*Workshops for Preschool
Parents*



HIGHSCOPE®



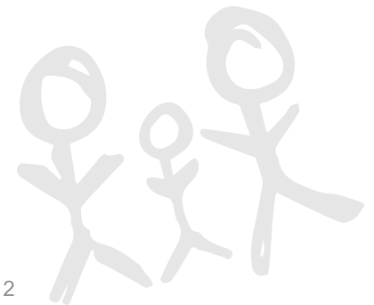
FINE-MOTOR DEVELOPMENT



OBJECTIVES

You will

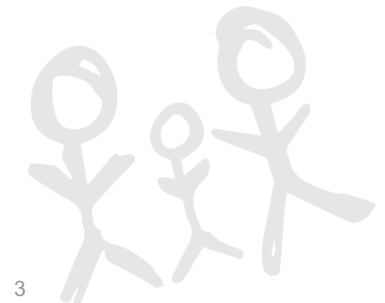
- Learn about children's fine-motor development
- Learn ways to support fine-motor development at home





USING CHOPSTICKS

- Use the chopsticks to pick up the small objects on your table.
- If you already know how to use chopsticks, try using them in your nondominant hand.





MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

- Children develop strength and control in their large muscles before they do in their small muscles (e.g., muscle control develops in the trunk, legs, and arms before it develops in wrists, hands, and fingers).
- Motor abilities begin with general skills, which become more specific and defined as children get older.
- Between the ages of three and five, children gain strength and coordination in their hands, as well as ability in using their thumb with their index or middle finger.





FINE-MOTOR SKILLS

Children demonstrate dexterity and hand-eye coordination in using their small muscles.

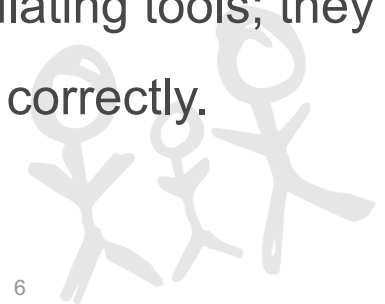
- With time and experience, children develop fine-motor movements (e.g., holding, squeezing, poking, smoothing, positioning, writing, cutting) needed to manipulate materials and tools.
- As they practice manipulating objects, children develop hand-eye coordination (e.g., stacking blocks, assembling puzzles, stringing beads, pouring juice).





TEACHER SUPPORT STRATEGIES

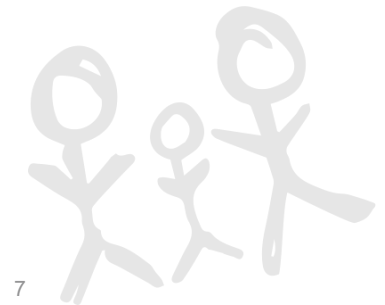
- Teachers provide materials and activities that require children to use their fingers and hands.
- Teachers provide similar objects in different sizes and textures to support children as they develop more control over their fine-motor movements (e.g., Legos and Duplos of various sizes, different sized beads).
- Teachers support children at their current developmental level and give them time to practice and gain muscle strength.
- Teachers suggest and model ways of holding and manipulating tools; they do not correct children, but demonstrate how to use tools correctly.





ACTIVITIES FOR HOME

- What activities can children do at home that will support their fine-motor development?





SQUEEZE BALL

1. Select three balloons.
2. Use a funnel to fill one of the balloons with the material provided (sand, salt, flour) and tie the balloon.
3. Cut the tip off another balloon. Stretch this balloon over the first balloon to cover it.
4. Repeat step 3 to create a stronger ball.

