

## BEGINNING WRITING

### What to look for

#### Your child...

- ✓ Can express ideas through pictures he or she draws
- ✓ Can use pencils, crayons, and markers for drawing and writing
- ✓ Can copy and draw a line, circle, X and +
- ✓ Is beginning to write some of the letters in his or her own first name

#### To encourage your child's beginning writing skills:

- ★ Let your child use school tools such as pencils, washable markers, crayons and blunt-tipped scissors. Gather and organize these materials, along with some paper, in a box that your child can decorate and have access to.
- ★ Encourage your child to explore with drawing materials, and to use drawing to express his or her ideas.
- ★ Let your child see that written words are a part of daily life. Make grocery lists together, or write notes to relatives and friends. Point out the different ways that you use writing in your daily routine.
- ★ Label your child's belongings with his or her name. Let your child label some of his or her own things such as a notebook or crayon box.