

Step By Step Approach

At Creative Paths Learning Studio, we know that learning to identify and write letters are skills that begin with a foundation that starts when children are as young as infants and toddlers. Read through below to see examples and learn more about our step by step approach.

Infants: We use songs, books, and fingerplays to introduce beginning language, babbling, letter sound formation. Infants are invited to use their fingers in many ways during beginning writing activities. Infants are constantly their grip and their fine motor finger and hand muscles. Infants are introduced to such media as bulb crayons, finger paint, paintbrushes, and playdough. Experiences such as ripping/tearing, picking up/using utensils, and gripping/reaching/shaking small toys ready fine motor muscles.

Toddlers / Twos: Toddler and two year olds continue to explore letters and words through books, songs, and fingerplays. They are introduced to the alphabet and begin learning the songs and movements from Amazing Action Alphabet which combines music and movement to teach children letter recognition and sounds. Children at this age begin using chunky crayons, markers, and paintbrushes. Scissor use is introduced with two year olds to help strengthen hand muscles and coordination skills. When drawing, children of this age start to make marks and attempt circles. Older two year olds start putting names and stories into their drawings, and are encouraged to verbally narrate their creations.

Three Year Olds: Through activities and games, children focus on letter recognition, upper and lower case letter match, and letter sounds. They begin to evolve from scribbling to writing recognizable letters. Children are introduced to pencils in addition to slimmer crayons, markers, and paintbrushes. Educators encourage children to describe and label their drawings with assistance. Three year olds continue scissor practice to work on strengthening hand muscles, coordination, and grip. Children at this age start building the connection between written word and meaning.

Four Year Olds: Four year old children continue building on their writing and dexterity. Educators observe and guide children to activities that further fine motor development including lacing, weaving, small manipulatives, and utensil control. Children are exposed to media print in dramatic play center and encouraged to incorporate writing by writing grocery lists, cards, signs, etc. Children at this age begin to put letters together to write their name and familiar cvc words (mom, dad, cat). Educators encourage children to label drawings on their own.

