



# Proper Pencil Grip

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The correct pencil grip is a tripod grip, using three fingers.

Notice that the pencil rests on the third (middle) finger with the thumb and pointer holding the pencil. Notice that the pencil angles back toward the web space between the thumb and first (pointer) finger. Tuck the last two fingers in “for a ride.”

We use a pencil gripper as a guide in the early stages of kindergarten. The gripper does function in an “ambidextrous” fashion. However, for the ideal use, place the gripper with the word “China” facing toward the sharpened point of the pencil for a right-handed student. Place the word “China” facing up toward the eraser end for a left-handed student. Set the gripper so the bottom matches where the sharpened part starts. Examine the three indentations on the pencil gripper. The longest space is the indentation for the middle finger to rest. It is a bit of an oblong shape. The remaining two indentations are more similar in shape. These two are for the thumb and pointer finger. The larger of the two is for the thumb. The smaller of those two is for the pointer finger. You can use a black Sharpie marker to put a small dot in the center of the thumb space to help cue your child.