

# Making marks matters!

- \* Let your child see you writing (shopping lists, writing letters, etc)
- \* Make marks everywhere (sticks in mud, fingers in sand, water and paintbrushes, chalk ...)
- \* Have pens and paper ready – drawing matters
- \* Scribbling is important too
- \* Talk about, value and celebrate your child's drawings – whatever they look like

**I'm writing a shopping list. Would you like to write one too?**

**I really like your picture. Can you tell me about it?**

**Would you like to help me to write your name?**

**This will help your child:**

- \* To see themselves as writers, to take ownership of the marks they make and feel good about the work they do
- \* To have the chance to experiment with the possibilities of making marks with all sorts of different materials
- \* To develop strength in the muscles in their arm and fingers to be able to control a pencil, so lots of opportunities for physical play are important too

