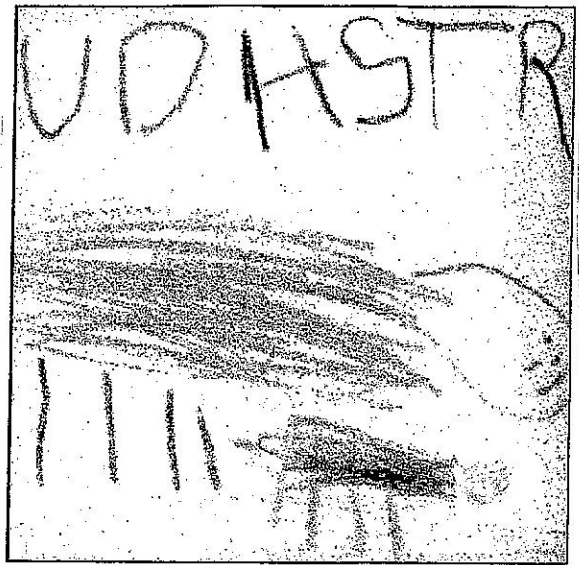
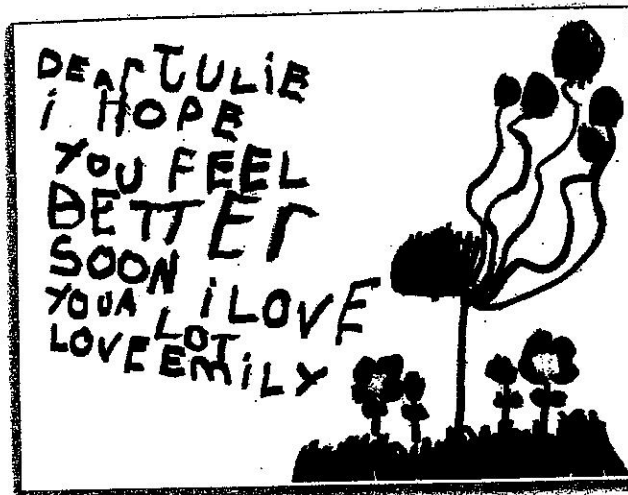


Stage 4 – Children begin to make letter-sound connections. They are usually consonants in the initial or final position. This stage often happens in late preschool or early kindergarten.



Stage 5 – Children use invented spelling. Spelling is based on the sounds they hear. It may be several consonants and one or more vowels. This stage often begins in kindergarten.



Stage 6 – Children begin using correct or phonetic spelling. Most of what they write can be read by others.

Scribbling and drawing are important stepping stones to developing these handwriting skills. It is very common during the preschool years for children to switch hands and use an inappropriate grasp. You can help your child by providing many opportunities to explore, discover, and practice using the different tools we use in handwriting. Create a writing box or drawer filled with colored pencils, markers, crayons, and pens. Add different types of notepads, notebooks, envelopes and file cards. Let your child use child appropriate scissors, tape, stampers, and stickers.

Let your child see you using handwriting every day to make notes, lists, and letters. Texting and emailing are important forms of communication to others especially in this day and age. BUT, our preschoolers also need a print environment where they see adults using paper and pencil too!

HAPPY HANDWRITING IN THE NEW YEAR!

Bev Igo, Curriculum Coordinator

Resources: www.center.serve.org
Literacy and the Youngest Learner, Susan Bennett-Armistead
The Intentional Teacher, Ann S. Epstein