# Little SPARK: Simple Play Adaptations to Reference for Kids

## Jumbo Contoured Foam Grip

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| **Description:** | **Image:** |
| Full-length 4” foam pencil grip with a contoured, ergonomic design that facilitates an open web space. Jumbo Contoured Foam Pencil Grips are made of colorful dense foam that adds weight to writing utensils. [Purchasing Information](https://www.therapyshoppe.com/specials/P5801-jjumbo-contoured-foam-grip-handwriting-help-tool-sensory-seeker-pencil-grasp-special-needs-kids) | Jumbo Contoured Foam Grip |

**Who Might Benefit?**

Those who hold their pencil too tightly, have reduced grip strength, demonstrate motor challenges, are sensory seekers or benefit from the use of tactile and visual cues to hold a pencil.

**Why Use?**

An opportunity to grip pencil comfortably, receive extra sensory input, and develop functional grasp for holding drawing tools.

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| Instructions for Use: | Adaptation Ideas: |
| **Environmental Considerations*** Use in any environment with a hard surface to support the writing or drawing material.

**Positioning & Alternate Positioning*** Use in any position; seated, standing, on the floor, with a slanted surface, on an easel/wall.

**Basic Play/Use 🡪 Extended Play/Use** * Copy, draw, and create 🡪 Use with tools beyond drawing (e.g. paintbrush).
 | **Build It Up*** Enlarge grip even more with Dycem, shelf liner, or other textured materials.

**Stabilize It*** Use elastic hair tie, Wikki Stix, or small amount of tape if the writing tool is sliding in the grip.

**Add Sensory Cues*** Add fidget to the eraser end of the pencil.

**Communication Supports*** Provide a communication board with vocabulary appropriate for the activity.

**DIY Alternative*** Create grip from pink sponge roller.
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### Words to Encourage Play/Use

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| **Draw**A hand holding a yellow pencil drawing lines on a piece of paper. | **Write**A hand holding a yellow pencil writing lines on a white sheet of paper. | **PaperA construction paper pad with one light blue sheet detached.** |
| **TraceA hand holding a red pencil tracing the outer line of an apple.** | **Go**Green light lit up on a traffic signal | **StopRed light lit up on a traffic signal** |
| **My TurnA child pointing to themself.** | **Your TurnA hand pointing to a child.** | **Done****A child with a thumb up slightly pointed toward themself and a green circle with a white checkmark next to the child.** |

\*”Adaptations” adapted from: Haugen’s Modes for Adapting Toys based on materials from the "Let's Play" Project at the University of Buffalo

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