

## HOW TO IMPROVE COLOURING SKILLS



- Work on aim-and-scribble activities where the child aims at a target and scribbles on top. You can draw a page of stars or fish and have them “catch” each one. You can draw spots on a long snake and have them aim at each spot.
- Use big, clear pictures for colouring. Wide clear lines will help. An adult may need to thicken the line with some initial colouring with crayon around the edge.
- Use plastic stencils or make your own using a margarine lid and utility knife to cut out basic shapes. Tape the stencil to the paper to help hold it steady. When the child colours inside the shape, they will feel the edges, so they don’t only rely on visual feedback. Once the stencil is removed... voila! You have a perfectly coloured shape!
- Highlight the edges of a picture for a child and ask them to colour inside the bright edge.
- Teach the child to trace around the edge first, and then colour inside the shape.
- Use Wikki Stix to press around the edge of the shape. This will create a “bump” for the child to hit, so they can feel as well as see the boundary.
- Reinforce the idea of colouring over all the white paper inside the shape.
- Over time, teach the child to move the crayon/pencil in different directions to colour different shapes and sizes.