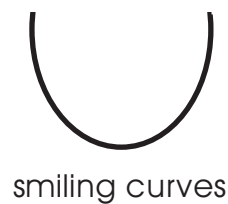
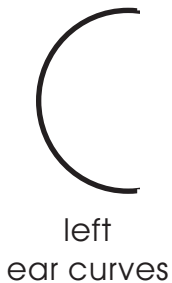
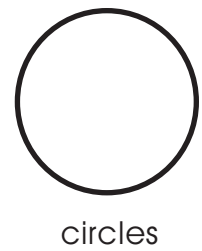
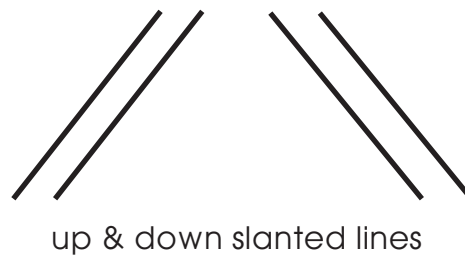
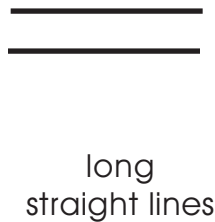
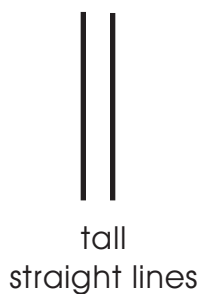


# Introduction

Learning how to print can either be a frustrating and challenging experience for a young child, or it can be a fun and successful experience. All the activities in *Pre-Printing Fun* have been designed to make learning how to print a successful experience.

So, what makes the difference? Often, teachers and parents present learning how to print letters in alphabetical sequence. Developmentally, this makes very little sense. Children need to learn how to control a pencil and how to make various handwriting strokes before they are able to print letters. *Pre-Printing Fun* gives children the opportunity to learn how to control a pencil and then learn specific handwriting strokes, which then enables them to print a variety of alphabet letters. For example, in *Pre-Printing Fun* children are taught first how to make "tall straight lines" and then "long straight lines." When children are able to print these lines they are then able to print "l, i, L, t, T, F, E, H, and I. Children immediately feel successful and are learning correct handwriting skills.

The strokes taught in *Pre-Printing Fun* are as follows:



## EXTRA IDEAS TO STRENGTHEN FINE MOTOR SKILLS

Children need a large variety of experiences to strengthen fine motor skills and to learn how to print. Finger painting, modeling with play dough, opening and closing clothes pins, using scissors and snipping the edges of paper, peg boards, and beading are all wonderful activities that will build small muscle strength and coordination.