

## Handwriting and Occupational Therapy in the Schools

### Abstract:

Handwriting is an important life skill, and handwriting tasks take up a significant amount of time during the school day. Research suggests that writing by hand influences reading skills, recall, academics, and motor and composition skills. Pediatric occupational therapists evaluate and treat children who are struggling with handwriting; therefore, it is important for practitioners to be aware of a variety of treatment strategies for addressing handwriting challenges. After participating in this session, the learner will be able to discuss the research on typical and atypical pencil grasps, identify and name 5 common handwriting errors, and explain 3 techniques for increasing handwriting legibility.