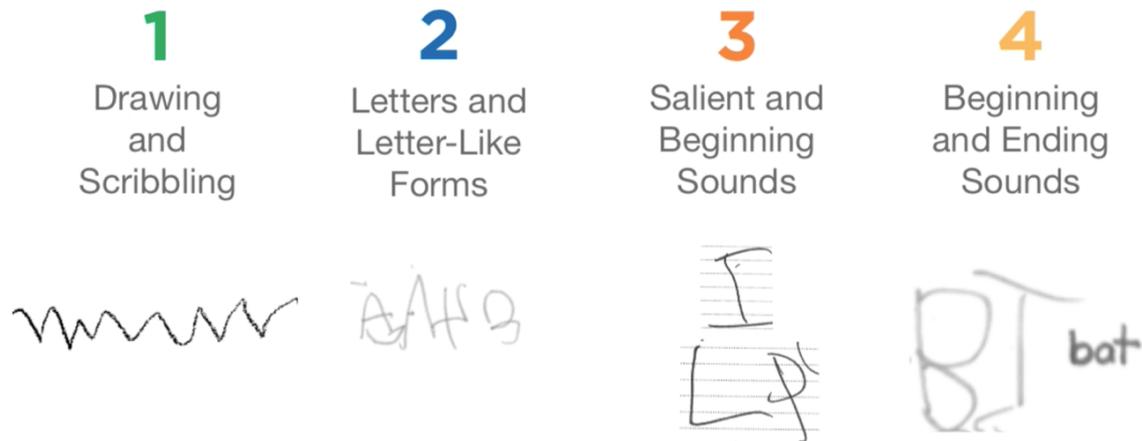


## The Early Writing Framework



### Level 1 Drawing and Scribbling

- Drawings are their writings
- Interest in writing has sparked
- Progresses from directionless to left-to-right orientation
- Begin to show they know something about print

### Level 2 Letters and Letter-Like Forms

- In the beginning children write letter-like forms and shapes that resemble real letters but are not quite accurate
- Letters don't represent the sounds in the message they're trying to convey
- Show growth writing letters that represent words and sentences even though not connected to sounds yet

### Level 3 Salient and Beginning Sounds

- Critical milestone – representing sounds in words systematically
- While not yet conventional writers or spellers, putting together their knowledge of print *and* sound
- Salient sounds in words are prominent and/or easy to feel in a child's mouth

### Level 4 Beginning and Ending Sounds

- Writing starts to look more conventional
- Use multiple related letters to represent a word, usually beginning and ending sounds but not the middle vowel sounds

### **Practices to provide support for children's writing during centers:**

1. Write what children say  
When you're talking with children about their work, ask them if you can write about their work, either on it or near it. Then write what children say. Be sure you say the words out loud as you write them. Encourage children to point to the words and read them aloud after or with you. If children don't feel comfortable with you writing on their picture, you can use a sticky note.
  2. Model writing  
As you write say things like, "I am writing," or "I am writing a word" and say each letter as you write it, "L-O-V-E. These letters are the word love." This helps children begin to recognize that print carries meaning and that you can represent the words you say and hear with written symbols.
  3. Encourage writing for varied purposes
    - Label work
    - Make a list
    - Write a letter
    - Take an order
    - Sign in
    - Post a message
    - Write a story
  4. Point out print & sounds in children's writing  
This strategy works best for those children who are at the end of Level 2 as they're transitioning into Level 3.
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### **Seeing it in Action Video**

#### **Notes:**