

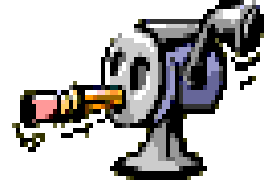
# SMART KIDS WHO HATE TO WRITE

*Pamela Gates, CLS, CNHP*  
DIANNE CRAFT LEARNING SYSTEM

## **USING BRAIN RESEARCH TO PROMOTE STUDENT SUCCESS!**

### Introduction

- \* The brain model for understanding how students learn
- \* Crossing-the-midline as vital for easy processing of information
- \* How bright children can have processing problems
- \* How a processing glitch can make a child appear "lazy" or uncooperative



### **Visual/Motor Processing (the ability to think and write at the same time)**

#### **\*DIAGNOSIS - Learn to check for signs of "stress" in a child's writing system**

- Hates to write...or takes so long to do
- Mixed dominance (eye and hand on opposite sides of body) – we never change dominance!
- Frequent or occasional reversals in letters or numbers (after age 7)
- A right handed child who makes his "o's" clockwise, like a left hander
- Makes many letters from bottom to top (vertical reversals)
- Copying takes a long time and is very labor intensive
- Does all math problems mentally to avoid writing them down
- Writing looks sloppy and child is often considered lazy
- Great stories orally, but writes very little
- In math, lining up numbers in multiplication or division is difficult
- Mixes capital and small letters in writing

#### **Early Signs of Visual/Spatial Problems (can be corrected with easy midline therapy):**

- Difficulty identifying left and right easily
- Learning to ride a bike is much harder
- Difficult skipping (can gallop)
- Difficulty going down stairs using alternating feet
- Difficulty learning to tie shoes
- Fine motor problems

#### **\*CORRECTION**

- Establish the midline of the body as a "bridge" instead of "barrier"
- Use the midline spatial exercise to reduce the stress in a child's writing system
- This exercise helps a child "internalize" directionality
- Improves eye/hand coordination for sports – coaches love this exercise!
- The exercise, done daily, begins to show improvements in handwriting ease in 3 months, but needs to be continued for a minimum of 6 months to transfer to the right, automatic brain hemisphere.

*Pamela Gates is a Certified Learning Specialist in Dianne Craft's Right Brain Learning System. She and her daughter Breanna are co-owners of Connect Education, offering consultations and tutoring services in Denver, CO. [www.connecteducationco.com](http://www.connecteducationco.com) This very effective daily writing exercise and other helpful learning exercises are available in the Brain Integration Therapy Manual, by Dianne Craft. For a visual demonstration of this exercise with all ages of children, get the DVD, "Smart Kids Who Hate to Write". Download free Daily Lesson Plans for the Struggling Reader, Writer/Speller, and Math. Dianne offers Telephone Consultations providing Personal Learning Plans for your child. Just download the forms on her website. [www.diannecraft.org](http://www.diannecraft.org)*