These activities are typical of a child who is 4 years old.

✓ **Pencil Skills**
  ✓ Demonstrates a hand preference
  ✓ Grasps crayon with index, middle and long fingers
  ✓ Wrist movement directs pencil
  ✓ Copies cross
  ✓ Traces square and triangle
  ✓ Colours within the lines
  ✓ Draws a person with a head, body, arms and legs

✓ **Visual Motor Skills**
  ✓ Cuts out a square or triangle
  ✓ Builds varied designs with blocks
  ✓ Picks up three beads and moves them into the palm of the same hand
  ✓ Holds two beads in palm of hand and is able to release one

✓ **Pre-readiness Skills**
  ✓ Matches letters and numbers
  ✓ Names 5 letters

✓ **Dressing Skills**
  ✓ Zips and separates shank on jacket
  ✓ Buttons small buttons
  ✓ Laces shoe

**Watch for these warning signs**

- Tires or gives up easily
- Avoids colouring or crafts
- Switches hands during cutting or colouring
- Clumsy with small objects
- Resists messy play (glue, finger-paint)
- Needs to change activities frequently
- Needs to change activities frequently

**If you have concerns about your child, and occupational therapist (OT) can assess his/her development in these areas. The OT will provide suggestions and/or treatment to promote your child’s development of these skills.**