

## Metal Insets

Purpose: The purpose of this activity is to prepare the hand and arm for writing, to develop control of movement and hand-eye coordination, to prepare the child for printing, to teach the child how to properly sit and hold a pencil while writing, to encourage lightness of touch when using a pencil, as well as to introduce the concept of geometry and to develop a sense of esthetics.



Directions: For this activity, you will need the metal inset shapes, the inset paper, colouring pencils and a tray. The child will start by placing a piece of inset paper on their tray and selecting a shape. They will then take the pink frame of the inset and place it on their tray. The child will follow by selecting two different coloured pencils and placing them in the grooves at the top of the tray. Once the child has placed all of the items on the tray, he/she will carry it to a table. He/she will then place the frame of the inset onto the inset paper and start by using one of the coloured pencils to trace the shape inside the frame in one continuous line. He/she will then follow by using the other coloured pencil to lightly shade

the entire shape in, using straight lines, without removing the frame. When the child has finished shading the shape in, he/she will place the coloured pencils into the grooves of the tray and carry the tray back to the metal inset shelf. The child will then remove the frame and place it back on the shelf with the correct shape and place the coloured pencils back into the corresponding coloured pencil holder. Once the child has returned all of the materials to the shelf, he/she will place the completed metal inset in their file. Some extensions of this activity are using multiple metal inset frames to create a design, shading the shape in using zig-zag or curvy lines, or making a booklet after the child has completed one of every metal inset shape.



Miss Danica  
IMTD (3-6), RECE