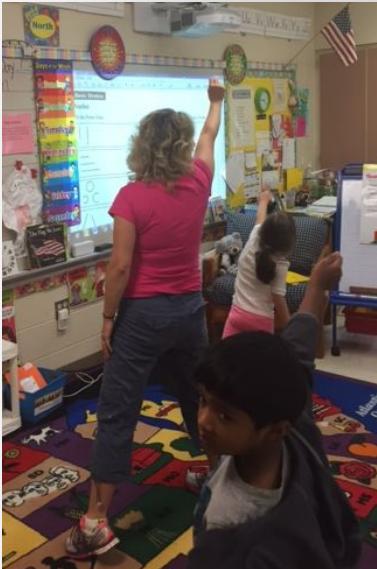


# OT in the classroom - it just makes sense!



Occupational therapy was caught being inclusive at Bridle Path Elementary! Dr. Kristen Posner, the occupational therapist, provided in-class support during a handwriting lesson in Mrs. Maureen Zazyczny's first grade class to promote hand development, mature pencil grasp, and accurate letter formations. Kristen and Maureen had the children complete hand exercises to promote the stability and mobility required for pencil control. Kristen incorporated kinesthetic learning by having students using their bodies to form letter strokes. This whole-body movement opportunity supported attention and developmental principles, in that young children cross their body mid-lines before learning to cross a visual mid-line on paper. Following the first grade lesson, Kristen popped into Jake Hoffman and Amanda VanVliet's second grade class. During Language Arts, Kristen assessed and supported manipulation, attention, direction-following, and spatial planning skills within the classroom context while students were organizing their binders.