



## Scissor Skills



Scissor skills are a foundation skill for student success. Using scissors helps to build hand strength, improve the ability to coordinate both hands at the same activity and works on eye-hand coordination.

Teaching progression:



Snip straws and play dough.

Snip across narrow strips of thick paper.

Cut consecutively along a bold, thick straight line.

Gradually progress to cutting out shapes with slight curves and big circles.

Now try more difficult shapes with corners, zig zags and smaller circles.

Tips:



Use thicker paper for improved control.

Start with thick bold cutting lines.

Ensure that the scissors are made for the child's handedness. To make sure, when the blades are open (apart), left handed scissors will have the left blade on top, for right handed scissor, the right blade will be on top.

Small scissors work best for small hands.



Scissor Grasp:



The thumb goes through the smaller handle loop, the index and middle fingers go through the larger handle loop.

The hand should be positioned so that the thumb is on top, same as for a handshake.

The tips of the scissors should be pointed away from the body when cutting.

When holding the paper with the non-dominant hand, the thumb should be on top of the paper.