

Scissor Skills

Progression of scissor skills

Snipping

Consecutive snips

Cut along a straight line

Cut out a square

Cut along a curved line

Cut out a circle

Cut out a triangle

Cut out complex designs

Vary the paper that your child is cutting. Heavier paper (construction paper, cardstock, etc.) is good to use when your child is first learning to cut. Other types of paper include, wax paper, aluminum foil, sand paper, and plastic shopping bags. Start with wide lines when learning to cut lines and shapes. Progressively, move to narrow lines as your child learns to cut.

When learning to snip have your child cut items such as straws, yarn, thread, tape, and strips of paper.

When moving from snipping to cutting, move from narrow to wider paper.

Glue sticks, straw, or yarn on both sides of paths to improve boundary awareness.

Punch holes with a hole punch along the line and have your child cut to the holes. Increase the distance between the holes as your child progresses with their cutting.

If you have any questions, please contact your Occupational Therapist.

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