

11. FINE MOTOR - Scissor skills

14 steps in scissor development

Student;

- 1. enjoys tearing paper
- 2. shows an interest in using and handling scissors
- 3. is able to hold scissors when supported by an adult
- 4. can hold scissors unaided
- 5. can open and close scissors
- 6. is able to open and close scissors with control
- 7. is able to hold paper and make random snips
- 8. is able to make several snips into the paper forwards
- 9. is able to cut along a straight line
- 10. is able cut around simple shapes
- 11. is able cut around simple shapes changing directions
- 12. can cut alond curved lines
- 13. can cut out circles
- 14. is able to cut around more complicated shapes

Activities to help a student open and close

- Use tongs. Tweezers or children's chop sticks to pick up and move easy objects such as pom pom's
- Punch holes in paper using handheld paper punch
- Use a plant sprayer squirt water
- Use droppers to drop water/ paint



Activities to help a student's scissor skills

- Cutting tubes/ strips made from playdough
- Cutting plastic straws to make into beads -thread on a string to make a necklace
- Start by cutting on thin card rather than paper (easier to handle)
- Stick a sticker on a sheet of paper- ask the student to cut towards it
- If a student likes to 'snip' -give them a variety of types of paper/ card to snip before moving onto more formal cutting tasks
- Put coloured dots on handles of scissors to help with finger placement

Equipment

 Scissor Assessment kits-helpfully have a range of scissors for you to try

https://www.sensorydirect.com/long-loop-scissors-1



• Easy grip loop scissors/ Self opening scissors https://www.tts-group.co.uk/mini-easi-grip-scissors/1002036.html



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You will find a variety of Fine and Gross Motor videos here.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7MVghDNLeJz-IOnEzJCxolM8n0v4wi_O

We have a wide range of scissor skill videos and advice here:

http://redbridgeserc.org/resources/category/cutting-skills

SEaTSS has a specialist motor PD Team.

We have a range of programmes and packs to support families and schools. Contact us for more information.

