

Cutting Activities

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

2-3 years:

- Begin introducing scissors and pre-cutting activities
- Try loop scissors

3-4 years:

- Teach your child to cut on a line

5-6 years:

- Teach your child to cut out a variety of simple shapes

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- Cutting is a skill used throughout life.
- Cutting requires both hands. One hand has to the paper steady while the other is cuts.
- Cutting skills help in develop hand muscles.



WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Always supervise your child during cutting activities.

Pre-cutting activities:

- Grasp objects with small tongs.
- Complete crafts with clothespins. Example: get a circle plate and clip clothespins all around to make a sun
- Practice holding the scissors using a “thumbs up” position. Place the thumb in the little hole, and all other fingers in the large hole.

Cutting activities:

- Pretend the scissors are an animal. Have the animal take big chomps on the paper.
- Snip straws and Twizzlers into small pieces.
- Cut dough material. Examples: play doh, putty, clay, cookie dough.
- Draw a line with different colors. Have the child snip one color at a time until they complete the entire line.
- Put a piece of candy at the end of a line. Have your child cut on the line to get to the candy.

I have a copy of these home instructions, know what I need to do, and understand why they are important.