



# Cutting with Scissors

## What is it?

Cutting with scissors is an important skill for children to master in kindy. Cutting is made of two different skills:

1. learning how to hold, open and close scissors
2. learning how to cut along a line.

Children should be shown how to hold scissors correctly and have lots of opportunity to practice snipping before attempting to cut along a line. The ideal scissor hold is with the thumb through one hole and the middle finger through the other hole, with the pointer finger resting on the outside of the scissors. Cutting with scissors, helps develop pencil control skills as it strengthens to same muscles needed to hold and control a pencil.

## How to develop it

Getting Ready to Cut - ripping paper, water spray bottles, using hole punchers and staplers, pegging out laundry or playing with pegs, games with tweezers/tongs

Experimenting with scissors - snip straws, cut playdough, snip around the edge of a picture to make a frame

Cutting Games - cutting along thick straight lines (use pieces of paper to make a paper chain), fold paper in half then half again, then cut off corners to make a 'magic carpet' or doily.