

Sensational OT Tip of the Month

Scissor Skills

Do you know children that ...

1. Have difficulty getting scissors oriented correctly on their hands?
2. Using both hands effectively to turn the paper to cut?
3. Struggle to cut on the line?

These children might have difficulty coordinating two hands, decreased hand strength or poor fine motor accuracy to hold and cut paper effectively.

Sensational Ideas for Scissor Skills

1. Encourage children to keep their “thumbs up” when cutting to promote proper forearm and wrist placement when cutting.
2. Make sure the child is using scissors that are appropriate for right or left hand use. Children’s Fiskar scissors can work for either right or left hand use.
3. Cutting thicker paper like card stock is easier than cutting thin, flimsy paper. Smaller papers are easier to manage than larger.
4. Use tools that mimic the motion of cutting with scissors such as single hole punch, spray bottle, clothes pins and tweezers.

*Ask the occupational therapist at your school if you are interested in more information about **Scissor Skills**.*

Go to <http://therapystreetforkids.com/ScissorSkills.html> or <http://missmancy.com/cutting-skills/> for more information

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