


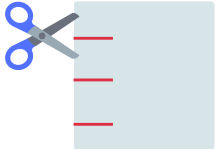
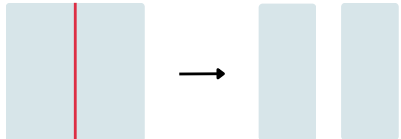
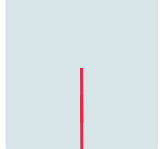
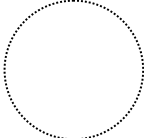

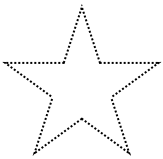
# SCISSOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

## EDUCATIONAL HANDOUT

Scissor skills is the ability to cut, which is an important developmental skill for children. Mastery of scissor skills is important for children's learning and play activities. Scissor skills can be developed through practice.

Check out the visual below, which provides a general guide to when a child develops their scissor skills.

### Progression with Scissor Skills Development

<b>1.5 years old</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child may use both hands to open and shut scissors.</li></ul>	
<b>2 years old</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child may snip paper.</li><li>• Child may hold scissors with 1 hand while holding the paper with the other hand when cutting. Parents may help the child hold the paper.</li></ul>	
<b>2.5 years old</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cut 1 piece paper into 2 pieces.</li></ul>	
<b>3-3.5 years old</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cut a 6 inch straight line.</li></ul>	
<b>3.5-4 years old</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cut out circle.</li><li>• Child begins to move or turn paper while cutting.</li></ul>	
<b>4-5 years old</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cut out square.</li></ul>	
<b>6-7 years old</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cut complex shapes (examples: star, heart).</li></ul>	

#### References

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- Caron Santha, J. (2014). *The scissors skills sourcebook: A developmentally based, multi-age, scissor cutting program and resource guide for teaching scissor cutting skills to children*. Boucherville, QC: MadyMax.
- Folio, R.M., & Fewell, R.R. (2000). *Peabody developmental motor scales* (2nd ed). Austin: Pro-Ed.