



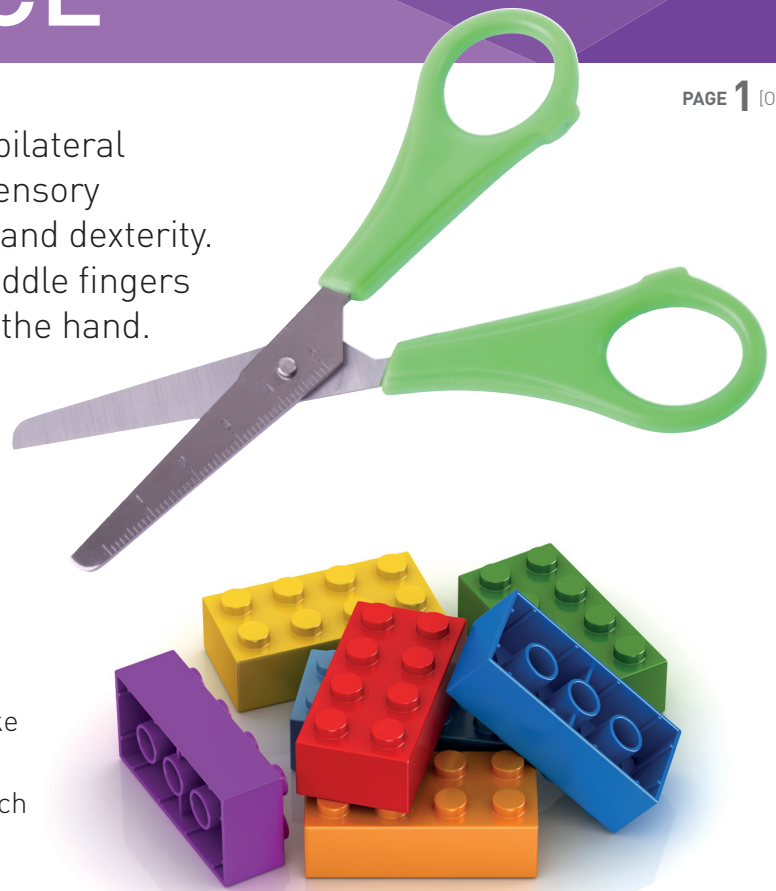
PRE-SCISSOR SKILLS ADVICE

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This is an advanced skill requiring bilateral coordination, stability, sensation (sensory feedback from joints and muscles) and dexterity. It requires the thumb, index and middle fingers to work separately from the rest of the hand.

There are different activities you can encourage your child to do to help prepare them for scissor skills:

- ✚ Make scissor talking puppets; cut nothing but open the scissors fast and slow, wide and slight etc.
- ✚ Use salad and kitchen tongs to move objects from one place to another. Make this fun by having racing games etc.
- ✚ Punch holes into paper with a hole punch and make pictures with the holes, eg ladybirds.
- ✚ Lacing cards.
- ✚ Squirting water out of bottles.
- ✚ Peg games, eg hanging out the washing, picking up cloth and cotton wool to make collages and placing and removing pegs from different parts of your clothing.
- ✚ Tweezer games, eg picking up marbles and playing board games such as Operation.
- ✚ Spinning tops.



Activities to develop bilateral coordination

Effective scissor skills require the use of both hands working together; one to work the scissors and the other hand to stabilise and manipulate the paper. There are different activities you can encourage your child to do to practice this skill:

- ✚ Lego and other mechanical games.
- ✚ Threading and lacing.
- ✚ Large ball games.
- ✚ Using a rolling pin.
- ✚ Opening jars.
- ✚ Wind-up toys.
- ✚ Pouring activities.
- ✚ Holding a bowl and stirring with the other hand.