

Cutting Progression	
Typical progression	How to support?
Uses two hands to open and close the scissors.	 Practise tearing paper Strengthen fingers – use soft balls, playdough, toys filled with beans/sand Practise opening and closing blades on playdough, in the sand or shaving foam, progressing to more firm materials like modelling clay.
	 Encourage 'thumbs up' position Practise snipping, using foam sheet sat first, to practice holding paper and snipping one handed. Progress to thicker paper, e.g. sugar paper for easier handling.
Holds scissors with thumb and four fingers.	 You could draw straight lines on the foam to introduce the idea of going forward, if ready. Practise activities to promote crossing the mid-line of the body e.g. passing a ball from left to right, or filling up a pot on the left with the toys placed on the right.
Chop scrap paper into smaller pieces. Makes snips into the edges of paper.	 Promote activities to strengthen bilateral coordination e.g. lacing cards, holding a stencil with one hand and drawing with another, hand clapping games.
Cuts fairly straight lines across paper.	
Holds scissors using thumb and one finger.	
Cuts angles.	
Cuts curves and circles.	