

Cut and Paste

*You're making nice snips
with your scissors!*

Show your child how to make small cuts in a strip of paper or around the edge of a larger sheet.

Cutting with scissors provides a great way to have fun while creatively improving eye-hand coordination.





Why this is important

When a child can use his fingers and wrists well, he can begin to use scissors. Your child will improve his skill in using his fingers and hands through experience with scissors. Children need to know how to use the basic tools of their culture. He will need to know how to use scissors throughout his life, and the fine motor control he develops will be helpful when he begins writing.

What you do

- Offer your child safe, children's scissors, and sit with him as he uses them.
- Let him hold the scissors in a way that is comfortable for him.
- With another pair, show him how the blades open and shut.
- Help him by holding a thin strip of firm paper and letting him snip it. He may cut all the way across the strip and split it into pieces, or he may cut small snips in the edge.
- Offer positive feedback for his efforts. *You cut a lot of snips in the edge of the paper! You're cutting very carefully.*
- Allow him to try to hold the paper as he cuts, but offer more help if needed.

Another idea

Demonstrate how to put paste on the scraps of cut paper and stick them to a larger piece of paper. Let him explore the paste with his fingers.

Let's read together!

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