

### What is the development of cutting?

- It is moving from beginner to advanced cutting skills.
- The steps in the development of cutting are: **1) snipping**, **2) fringing**, **3) cutting lines**, **4) cutting corners** and **5) cutting curves**.

### Why is the development of cutting important?

- To build skills by progressing through each step
- To provide cutting tasks at the correct skill level

### How to encourage the development of cutting skills?

- Have beginners cut wide and straight lines on smaller, thicker paper.
- As skills improve, the paper can be larger, the lines can become narrower and curves or corners may be added to the path.

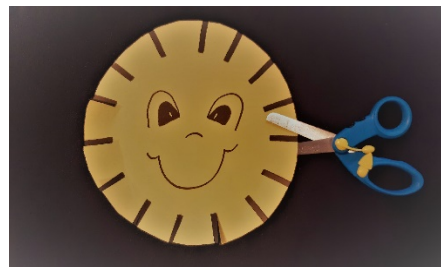
#### 1) SNIPPING:

- Have the child roll out playdough and snip it into pieces.
- Let the child explore snipping paper freely, without following lines.
- Teach the child to target a line by practicing on strips of paper (make the paper short and narrow so one close of the scissors will cut across the entire strip and draw wide target lines).



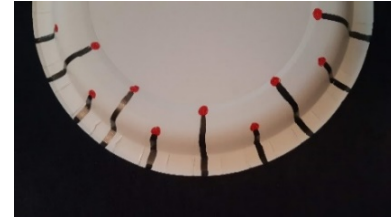
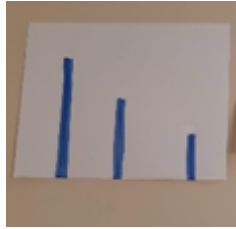
#### 2) FRINGING:

- Start the child with thick, straight lines that need only 1 scissor snip to cut.
- Draw the lines on smaller pieces of thick paper to make holding it easier.
- Draw a dot or place a sticker at the end of the lines as cues for the child to stop cutting.





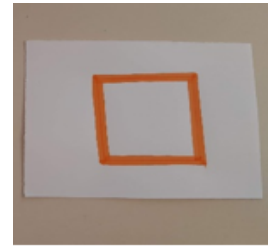
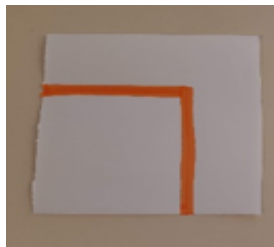
#### 3) CUTTING LINES:

- Have the child cut along longer straight lines by learning to join snips (make a full snip, move the scissors forward, make another snip and keep repeating).
- Some children find this challenging and will push through the paper or keep pulling the scissors away after each snip.
- Start them with lines of 2-4 scissor snips long and use a dot or sticker at the end of the lines as a cue to stop cutting.
- Use smaller pieces of paper for easier handling.
- (Photos on next page)





#### 4) CUTTING CORNERS:

- Ensure the child turns the paper (not the scissors) before changing direction to cut along the next line.
- Placing a dot in the corner acts as a cue to help guide when they should turn the paper.
- Start the child with two lines leading from the edges of the paper and only one corner to cut.
- Then, have them cut images that are more advanced with multiple corners.
- Use wide lines on smaller pieces of thick paper.
- Left-handed children should cut in a clockwise  direction and right-handed children should  cut in a counter-clockwise direction.



#### CUTTING CURVES:

- Encourage the child to coordinate slow paper turning with slow scissor closing.
- Use wide lines on smaller pieces of thick paper.
- Start the child with gentle curves leading from the edge of the paper.
- Then, have them cut images that are more advanced with multiple curves.
- Left-handed children should cut in a clockwise  direction and right-handed children should  cut in a counter-clockwise direction.



#### ADVANCED CUTTING:

- Have the child progress to a variety of shapes, with narrower lines drawn on larger pieces of thin paper.

