

Rural Church Schools Academy Trust
Scissor Skills Progression



	1.5 – 2 years old	2 – 2.5 years old	2.5 – 3 years old	3 – 3.5 years old	3.5 – 4 years old	4 – 4.5 years old	4.5 – 5 years old	5 – 5.5 years old
Scissor Skill	Hold Scissors using 2 hands	Opens/closes scissors with 2 hands Snips paper	Snips paper moving forward	Using suitable scissors (spring loaded, adult supported etc), cuts fairly straight lines across paper	Using suitable sized scissors, independently cut straight lines across paper	Cuts curved and angled straight lines.	Cuts out circles and squares, turning the paper to support them.	Cuts complex shapes
Expectation	Child shows and interest in scissors. Understands that scissors are used to cut paper. Learns to hold scissors, often using both hands to open and close the blades.	Learns how to open and close the scissors Begins to make snips on paper with no forward motion on the paper. Opens and closes scissors with the entire hand or 2 hands	Makes snips on the paper and begins to move the scissors across a small piece of paper.	Can hold scissors in the correct grip with support. Can move the scissors in a straight line across a piece of paper.	Can move the scissors in a straight line. Independently using thumb and 1 finger	Can cut along a straight and curved line, staying within 1cm of the line.	Can cut out a square or circle shape within 1cm of the cutting line. Begins to use the 'helping hand' to turn the paper while cutting.	Can cut out complex shapes with good accuracy (within 1/2 cm)
Resources	Child sized safety scissors with supervision at all times.	Child sized safety scissors with supervision at all times. Child sized safety scissors with sugar paper strips.	Child sized safety scissors with sugar paper/paper strips.	Spring loaded and adult support scissors Child sized scissors with different sized paper that the children can hold easily (in different shapes)	Child sized scissors. Paper with 1cm thickness straight lines that are at least 6cm long. Paper with ¼ inch thickness curved	Child sized scissors. Paper with 1cm thickness straight and curved lines that are at least 6cm long.	Child sized scissors. Paper with circles squares on to cut out.	Child sized scissors. Paper with complex shapes (regular and irregular including curved and straight lines)

					lines that are at least 6 inches long.			
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