



How can so much fun get my child ready for school?

Scissors are used almost every day in kindergarten. They help children develop eye-hand coordination and strengthen their hand and finger muscles for writing. Scissors can be fun, but they also teach children to use their tools with care.

Try these at home!

- **The Right Tool (even for a lefty).** Get a pair of child-friendly scissors that have blunt, not sharp ends. If you have noticed that your child is left-handed, there are scissors for left-handed people.
- **Show Me.** Show your child how to hold scissors. The thumb goes in the top hole and the pointer (index) finger should be placed in the lower hole. The middle finger should rest just below the rim of the lower hole to support the scissors. The ring and little fingers are not used in cutting.
- **Follow the Line.** Draw a simple wide line from the top to bottom of a sheet of paper. Ask your child to cut right along the line. Remind your child that his thumb should always be up (in the top hole of the scissors).
- **Creative Cutouts.** Draw a few different shapes on paper and let your child cut them out. Save the cutouts (and scraps) for use in other art projects!



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Things to say:

- **"Take your time, scissors are tricky!"**
You don't want to scare your child.
- **"Can you cut out these shapes?"**
Ask, don't order.
- **"How does it feel?"**
Ask open-ended, non-judgmental questions.
- **"Wow, you're a good cutter!"**
Applaud every effort, even if shapes are raggedy.

Read All About It:

My First Book Of Cutting (Kumon Workbooks)



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