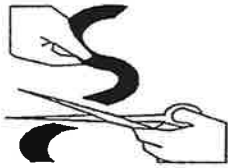



# OT PRE-REFERRAL FORM: INTERVENTION STRATEGIES



## DIFFICULTY HOLDING/ USING SCISSORS (AGE 4 AND UP)

Use correct size scissors appropriate for the child's hand size. Have a variety of adaptive scissors available (e.g. spring-loaded, loop scissors, easy-grip scissors in a variety of sizes; see catalogs like therapro.com). Scissor skills typically emerge by the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of preschool.

### Inability to open and close scissors with one hand. Child attempts to use both hands on the scissors:

	Began with using materials that only require a snip i.e. cutting up a straw, card stock, construction paper, marshmallows, fruit roll ups, licorice, beef jerky, play dough, ect...
	Worked up to cutting across paper, start with 2", 4", and 6" strips, then straight-line shapes, and circles. Start with thicker lines such as an 1", 3/4", 1/2", and work up to more narrow lines.
	Used a tweezers to pick up small objects
	Prompted student to use non-dominant hand to stabilize object/paper
	Used turkey baster to blow air on cotton balls in racing game
	Played pretend games with puppets (which have thumb moving opposite the rest of hand)
	Taped paper on a vertical surface so student cuts in an upright direction which promotes wrist extension and prevents maladaptive positions
	Practiced using tongs to pick up small objects. Egg decorating tongs are great to practice with—sold at local discount stores during Easter season
	Wrapped a rubber band around the scissors at the intersection of the two blades causing resistance in the opening process. (use caution if child has an exceptionally weak grasp or juvenile arthritis)
	Used terminology e.g. "thumbs up" and placed a sticker on student's thumb fingernail (both hands so student sees the stickers while they are cutting)
	Prompted the student to rest elbows on table to provide stability at the shoulder and elbow (see  , pg 10).
Comments:	