



# Fine Motor Skills Tip Sheet

## Ideas for “Poor Cutting”

If your student has trouble keeping their scissors in the right position while cutting you may try this...

- Hold the student’s elbow against the side of their body while cutting or give them verbal cues to keep it tucked in to their side while cutting. With the elbow in this position, the “thumbs up” cutting grip is maintained and keeps the student from turning the scissors over.

If your student fatigues easily during cutting activities or does not have the strength to open and close the scissors you may try this...

- Design activities using a hold punch to strengthen the small muscles of the hand and increase endurance while promoting proper cutting grasp patterns.
- Make sure the scissors the student is using are the appropriate size for their hand to allow them to gain mechanical advantage. The handles should rest along the backs of their first 2-3 fingers and thumbs as opposed to having the student place their hand in as far as possible.



Cowley County  
Special Services Coop  
1317 Wheat Road  
Winfield, KS 67156  
(620) 221-7021

### **Related items from Motor Skills Teacher Observation Sheet**

- Briefly highlight your point of interest here.
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### **Parental Involvement**

- ☺ Encourage parents to expose their children to cutting at home through activities like cutting out their favorite cartoon, cutting lettuce for salads, or cutting coupons.