**Trafford Children’s Therapy Service**

**EARLY YEARS – GETTING READY TO USE SCISSORS**

These are games that can be used to develop the building blocks needed for cutting with scissors, as well as being excellent for general fine motor skill development.

**Games with tongs-** tongs help with the opening and closing action needed for using scissors

* Building towers of blocks using tongs
* Make believe BBQ cooking corner (play dough as meat)
* Relay races which involve carrying an object with tongs across the room
* Fishing game – use toys or letters, shapes, etc. that children can fish out of water using tongs

**Games using a hole punch**

* ‘Craft’ hole punches available from stationary shops, supermarkets and craft shops supply all kind of shapes and sizes
* Draw a road about 2 cm wide at bottom of the page. Have child go along the bottom of the road making potholes
* Decorate edges of pictures
* Use stiff paper and hole punch to make a lacing activity Craft activities that require spots for gluing e.g., ladybird

**Games with water spray bottles**

* Hang up balloons that have shaving cream faces on them. Let the child squirt the faces clean
* Squirt water into container which has bubble mixture in it in order to make more bubbles
* Push a balloon along ground with spray from water bottle
* Put food colouring in and spray onto paper to create art work

**Scissors - with supervision!**

Practice snipping across strips of paper with scissors. Make sure their fingers are in the correct places, with thumb on top, with middle finger in the bottom hole and index finger supporting under the scissors.