



WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN



SCISSORS & CRAYONS



TALK

Children use fine motor skills (e.g. the small muscles in the hands and wrists) to do many school-related tasks. There are things you can do at home to help improve your child's fine motor skills.

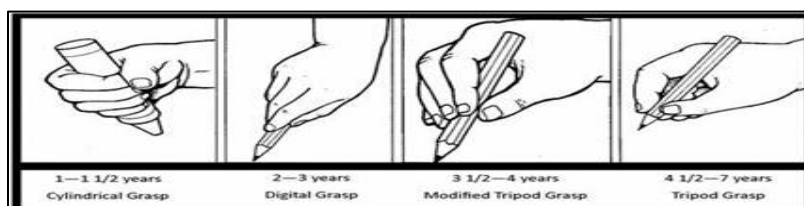
Scissors – Cutting with scissors requires the skill of hand separation (which is the ability to use the thumb, index and middle fingers separately from the pinky and ring fingers). If your kindergartener is beginning to show an interest in using scissors, here are a few strategies for getting started:

- Stress scissor safety (e.g., sit down when using scissors, do not run while holding scissors).
- Demonstrate how to use scissors.
- Encourage independent cutting.
- Offer one-inch wide strips of card stock, construction paper or old flyers for practice. After some time, introduce cutting in straight lines, curved lines, angled lines and even simple shapes.

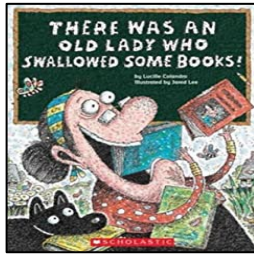
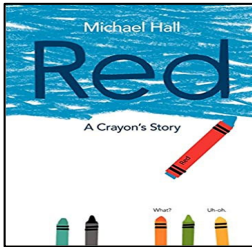


Crayons – Learning to hold and use crayons properly helps young children develop control in their hand muscles, thus aiding future writing efforts. Crayons are also used in:

- introducing children to art forms (e.g., rubbings over different textures) and science (e.g., melting crayon shavings). Crayons are one of the first tools used to record a child's environment, imagination and creativity.
- providing opportunities for counting, matching, identifying sets, and for learning colour names.
- building social skills. Crayons are great for sharing. They are also one of the first tools through which children can express their feelings.



READ



Red – A Crayon’s Story by Michael Hall:

<https://youtu.be/5uUykRjCOVE>

There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed Some Books by

Lucille Colandro: <https://youtu.be/hqIFKubdPP0>

CREATE

Paper Pizza Craft:

- Material: colored paper, crayon, scissors, glue
- Pizza crust: Trace and cut a circle the size of a large round plate.
- Sauce: Draw a smaller circle within the paper crust. Colour the sauce.
- Pizza toppings: Cut paper in various shapes and sizes. (e.g. small bits of yellow for cheese, red circles for pepperoni and long strips of green for peppers.) Glue toppings onto pizza.



Mosaic Art:

- Material: strips of color paper, scissors, glue.
- Instruction: cut out small pieces from strips of coloured paper and create a picture.



PLAY

Color Search:

- Materials: Crayons, 1-2 dice, one “mystery” bag or box (e.g. empty tissue box)
- Instruction: Place crayons in a “mystery” bag/box. Roll dice. Search for things inside the house that corresponds with the number rolled and color chosen. (eg. If you picked green and rolled a 2, you'll have to find two green things in your home!)

