Getting ready for using scissors

To develop a scissor grasp prior to using scissors**:**

## Pick it up

* Using salad tongs or other tong-type tools (e.g. tweezers) get the child to pick up objects (e.g. marshmallows, cotton wools balls, plastic blocks etc.) and drop them into a bucket. Make it a race between two who can collect the most items in one minute. Try using different texture/firmness of objects

## Squirting games

* Using water pistols or bulb-squeezing squirters get the child to spray balloons that have face drawn on them with shaving cream.
* In the bath or outside, squirt at each other/target e.g. boat using squirting toys/fish or washing up bottle
* Squirt water into a pan of soapsuds to make more bubbles

## Sponge games

* Squeeze soaked sponges to wipe / clean car and windows.
* Squeeze sponges in soapy water to make bubbles, pop bubbles by pinching / snipping with fingers.
* Squeezing sponges to move the water from one bucket to another, as quickly as possible.

## Play dough

* Rolling into a snake and pinch the head off!
* Pulling snake to make him longer and poke holes for eyes.
* Poking snake to make a creature e.g. worm

## Paper games

* Tearing and shredding paper into strip with both hands, one moving forward and the other backwards. The tear may need to be started by adult.
* Scrunching up paper into ball, initially using two hands then one hand.
* Flick paper balls into target, using whole hand initially then finger and thumb flick.
* Using a hole puncher, punch holes in paper. Try punching holes around the edges of an A4 sheet of paper. Try using card, foil and other materials.

## Hand games

* Action songs – Incy-Wincy Spider
* Finger puppet games,
* Finger cymbals