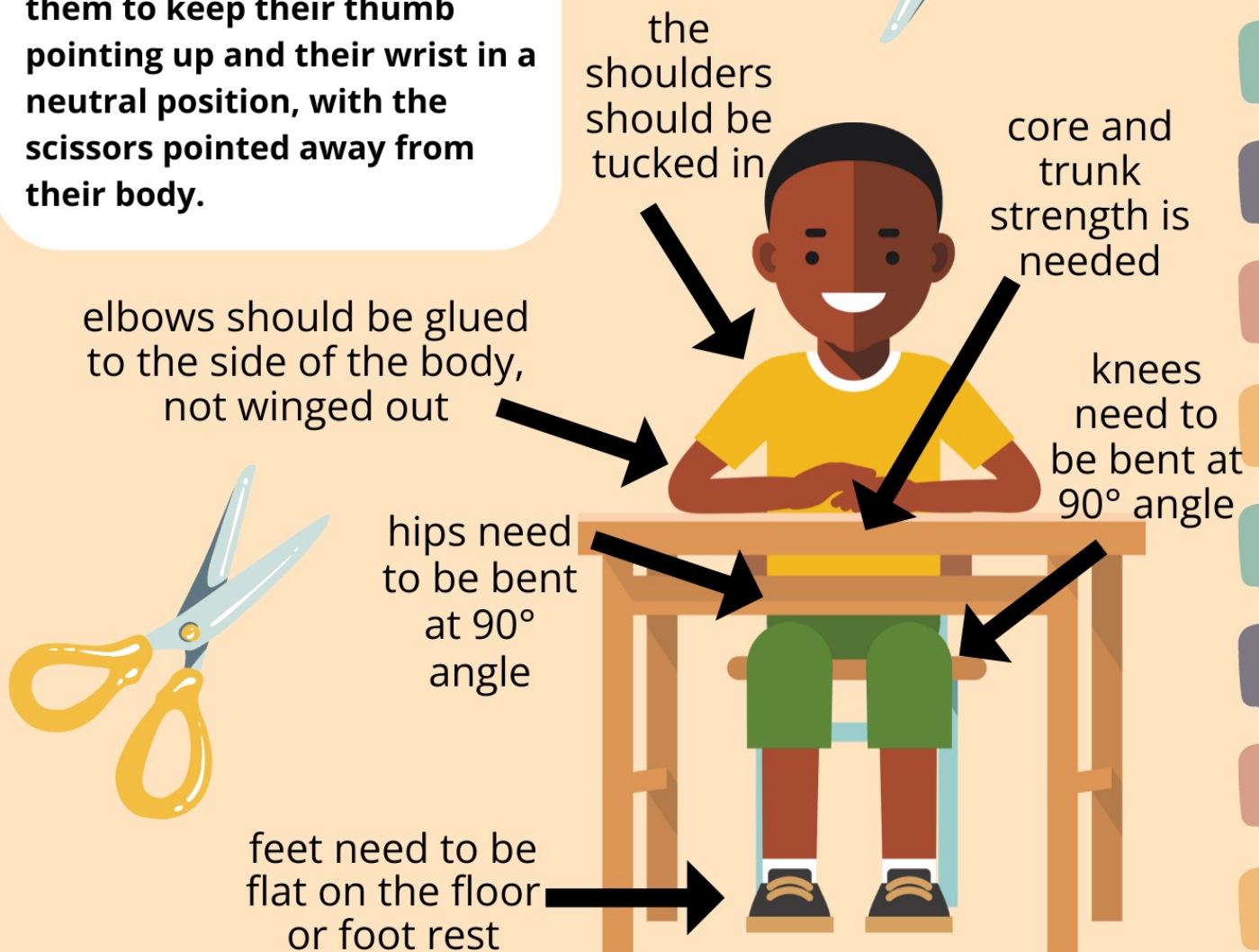


Proper Positioning for Scissor Skills

For a child to hold scissors correctly, guide them to place their thumb in the smaller top loop and their middle finger in the larger bottom loop, with the index finger resting outside for added stability. Encourage them to keep their thumb pointing up and their wrist in a neutral position, with the scissors pointed away from their body.



Skills Needed for Cutting with Scissors

- 1. Bilateral coordination:** The ability to use both sides of the body together in a coordinated way, such as using one hand to hold paper while the other cuts.
- 2. Hand strength:** The muscle power needed in the hands and fingers to grip, squeeze, and manipulate objects effectively.
- 3. Separation of the two sides of the hands:** The ability to control and use the thumb, index, and middle fingers separately from the ring and little fingers for more precise movements.
- 4. Hand-eye coordination:** The ability to use the eyes and hands together smoothly to perform tasks, such as cutting along a line.
- 5. Opening and closing of the thumb web space:** The movement of the thumb away from the hand to create space needed for gripping objects, like scissors, properly.
- 6. Precision of grasp and release:** The ability to accurately control the fingers to pick up, hold, and let go of small objects.

Tips for if Your Child is Struggling to Develop Cutting Skills

- 1) Highlight the cutting line to make it easier for your child to follow.**
- 2) Start by practicing with play dough and play dough scissors to build confidence in snipping.**
- 3) Provide hand-over-hand assistance as your child begins learning to cut.**
- 4) Use spring-loaded scissors to support the motion of opening and closing.**
- 5) Hold the play dough or paper for your child, allowing them to focus on mastering the scissor motion.**
- 6) Demonstrate the cutting action for your child so they can watch and copy**