Ready Steady Snip

This scissors skills programme has been created by Tracy Glen for KIDS Scotland. This material has been designed to be printed off and photocopied as required.
The first stage of learning scissor control is learning how to snip. Start with this piece of paper with lines pre-drawn down one side. Get the child to hold the paper in their non-dominant hand and snip each line with a single cut. To make this more of a fun activity cut along the dotted line to remove the instructions and once the child has finished snipping, roll the paper into a cylinder and fasten with a paperclip or sellotape to create a hairy creature! Your child can then give the creature a haircut.

If possible replicate this sheet onto stiff card initially, as this is more rigid and easier for your child to control as well as providing additional sensorimotor feedback. Once your child has mastered this move onto paper.
The second stage of cutting is learning to make more than one snip in a single direction. A child needs to learn to cut straight lines before they learn to change direction. Ask the child to stay within the black line when cutting.