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Montly RIP & SNIPS

Background:

This is a great way to:

- ❖ Reinforce listening and following directions
- ❖ Teach a pattern
- ❖ Strengthen hand muscles
- ❖ Increase finger dexterity
- ❖ Improve cutting skills
- ❖ Have fun while learning!

Directions:

- After I model and explain to the children what they will do, we sing and do this finger play.

This is the way we RIP & SNIP

RIP & SNIP

RIP & SNIP

This is the way we RIP & SNIP

To strengthen all our fingers!

- Children pretend to rip:
- Children make two fists with pointer finger and thumb extended holding onto paper,.
- One fist going towards you, one goes away.
- Children pretend to snip:
- Arms in front, hands extended, thumbs holding down ring finger and pinkie to the palm.
- Pointer and middle finger are the scissors, left arm goes right snipping in front of body, right arm goes left snipping across body.
- Children strengthen their fingers:
- Children have palms facing frontward and are wiggling all of their fingers.

Prep:

- Run off master on appropriate colored construction paper.
- I pre-cut the shapes as I only want this to be a RIP & SNIP experience.
- Later, when we master more involved cutting skills and our muscles are stronger, I'll have my students CUT out the shapes as well.

The next day...

- So that my children do not get confused stopping, and putting down a scissors and then starting again, I have them SNIP all the straight lines first and then RIP all the wiggly lines.
- So that they catch on to the concept, we review the ABAB pattern by saying RIP-SNIP-RIP-SNIP.
- Children WRITE their name on the back of their RIP & SNIP.
- If there's time, when everyone is done, we'll clean up and go sit on our *Circle Of Friends* carpet to show how lovely our RIP & SNIPS look.
- We'll also sing our song once more.
- I'll often follow it up with *Ten Little...* (To the tune of *Ten Little Indians*) and *The Hokey Pokey* of whatever object we have in our hand. i.e., the *Apple Pokey*, the *Pumpkin Pokey*, etc.
- Once my students learn a tune it's easy to substitute any name and it's a great 1 or 2 - minute gross-motor quickie that I can fill in on our way to somewhere.