Title: **Scissors Safety Spot**

Life Skill Area: Problem Solving and Decision Making

**LIFE SKILLS TAUGHT**
Household safety skills
Organization skills
How to sew on a button
How to safely use basic household equipment
Problem Solving and Decision Making

**MATERIALS NEEDED**
1. Quilted square potholder (remove fabric loop if present)
2. Buttons, various colors, size approximately ½ to 1 inch across
3. Hand sewing needle and thread
4. Scissors
5. Low-temp hot glue gun and glue sticks
6. Raffia
7. One-inch plastic ring

**PROCEDURES**
1. Select 4 or 5 buttons approximately ½- to ¾- inch diameter, and one decorative button approximately ¾- to 1-inch diameter which coordinate with the colors of the chosen potholder.
2. Thread needle with about 1 yard of thread. Double thread and knot at end.
3. Sew the 4 or 5 smaller buttons approximately ½ inch from one edge of the right side of potholder (if there is a ‘best’ or ‘preferred’ side). See diagram.

4. Fold buttoned-edge of potholder over adjacent edge with about 1 inch overlap, forming cone shape. See diagram. Carefully hot glue lapped area to hold securely. Note: Pointed end will only overlap a little while upper end will overlap more than 1 inch.
5. Attach plastic ring to corner of upper back with hot glue or stitching. This is the hanger.
6. Tie raffia into a 3- to 4-inch bow. Opposite the plastic ring (inside the cone), glue or stitch bow in place. Glue the large decorative button on center of bow.
7. Place scissors into cone-shaped holder and hang on wall, away from the reach of small children.

Note: Choice of hot glue or stitching in some areas will depend upon time allowed and skill/age level of participants. However, it is important that the first 4 or 5 buttons be sewn to learn the skill. Also, to lessen expenses a square of heavy-weight denim (approximately 6-7 inches) may be substituted for the potholder.

DISCUSSION
Explain the importance of storing dangerous household items in their proper places, both for safety and for ease of locating. Talk about knowing how to care for and maintain clothing. Emphasize that children are capable of sewing on buttons and should not depend on a parent or older sibling to do this task.

HOME ACTIVITY
Make certain scissors are stored in a safe place. Assemble small sewing kit (several buttons, needle and thread, small scissors) and keep in bedroom for simple repairs. Systematically check clothing items for missing buttons.