

How to Introduce

Your Child to ART



Create an area in your home where your child can have unlimited access to art materials: paper, pencils, crayons, paint, clay, etc. If she needs a little inspiration, encourage her to create based on some of the following themes: how she is feeling, her dreams, her favorite things.

Discuss your child's work with her. Ask her questions and never criticize her attempts. Be supportive and remember to listen carefully.

If your child criticizes her own work, ask her what she does like in it and encourage her to find something positive. Ask her what she could have done differently.

Draw and paint with your child. A lot. Every day if you can. And don't worry about what the end product looks like!

Take your child to art museums or art galleries. Be sure to take the time to look at paintings that interest your child. Her tastes may not be the same as yours and you should not subject her to only those works that you find fascinating. Share your favorite pieces with her and compare notes. Keep the day fun, by visiting the gift shop and taking time out for lunch. Remember your own childhood.

Look through art history books and pick out favorite paintings and drawings. Talk about how and why the artist painted what he or she did.

Encourage your child to say what she feels about art. Remind her that there are no wrong answers and always validate her ideas and opinions.



Don't forget to use **Community Resources** - the Internet, the library, art galleries, retail art galleries, print shops, colleges and art associations in your area.

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