

Keeping Art Alive at Home!

Keepp paper, pencils, crayons, and other supplies in an art area at home. Set aside a special art area for children to express themselves throughout the day.

Explore your child's dream to draw, to paint, to act, to sing, to dance—and encourage them to become the best they can be.

Enroll them in classes that teach fine arts- drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, photography, or printmaking. There are even some classes that parents and children can take together! Check local museums, YMCAs, and art centers for classes...or ask your child's art teacher!

Practice photography! Pick a theme and give your child time to take some photos. When you have developed the pictures, work together on creating family photo albums or scrapbooks.

Allow time everyday for your child to create- whether it is drawing, painting, writing a story, playing with clay, keeping a journal, or making a scrapbook. The more arts in your child's life, the more creative and artistic your child will be!

Read your local newspaper to find out about local arts events like museum exhibits, plays, festivals, or outdoor concerts. The more children see the arts in action, the more inspiration and motivation they will get about creating their own art.

Take a trip to the library to find books introducing your child to the visual arts: painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, and more. Knowing what others have done in art can inspire your child as they participate in the same activity. Also find some books about famous artists and read them with your child to learn more about art.

Ask your child to visualize, to draw, to react, and to comment on art EVERYWHERE you go!

Listen to your child's ideas about art. Discuss these ideas and give positive criticism. Talk about art and question what makes art "art."

Invite family and friends over for an art exhibit in your home or backyard. Display your child's artwork on clotheslines, walls, doors, everywhere! Have a reception and make your child feel like a famous artist.

Visit art museums, galleries, and exhibits in your local area and in the surrounding cities. A trip to an art museum opens a child's eyes to the wonderful world of art!

Enlist in the help of your elected officials, such as lawmakers, school board members, and ask them for more arts education funding from the local, state, and federal levels.

