

# The Importance of Art

Why is it important for young children to create art? What skills, knowledge, feelings, and dispositions are these children developing?



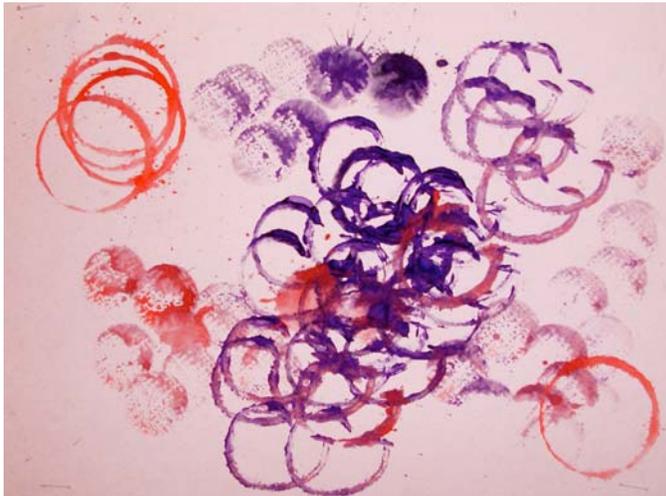
Tempera paint — Age 5



Painted baker's clay — Age 6



Crayon — Age 4



Tube print — Age 2

# Working Together



Pet show. Cut paper mural — Kindergarten

What cooperative decisions did the children need to make to create these group artworks?

Detail of mural



Our school neighborhood. Wood scrap and marker — Second grade

# Artistic Expression



Making masks and puppets allows children to express their fears and dreams. This child made a monster from a paper bag. What could you say to help the child express her feelings about it?

Paper bag puppet — Age 5

How does direct modeling without the use of tools or cookie cutters benefit children's self-expression, particularly those with special needs?

Play dough — Age 3



# Creative Collage



How is each collage unique?

“I am sticking them down.” Precut paper and marker — Age 2-1/2

In creating the artworks, what problems did each child have to solve?



“The bear is happy.” Cut paper  
— Age 5



What physical skills did the children use in creating these collages?

“Two flowers.” Cut paper and fabric — Age 7

# Painting Stories



What comments would you make to these young artists about their painting discoveries?

Tempera paint — Age 2-1/2

At the beginning of a project on pets, this kindergartner made a painting of his cat. What does he already know about cats? What follow-up painting activities would benefit this young artist?



Tempera paint — Age 5



Crayon and watercolor — Age 8

How does working within a crayon drawing both free and hinder a child artist? Which language activities could this picture inspire?

# Printed Patterns

How do these prints by children at different ages show increasing physical and spatial control?



Foam shape prints — Age 3

What could you ask these children to help them discover the different patterns they have made?



Gadget print — Age 6



Spool and stick print — Age 8

# Modeling



“Sun” “Sun.” Homemade playdough — Age 4

Do you think these children have had a lot of experience using clay? How has their work been influenced by two-dimensional art experiences?



“Tiger.” Painted baking soda clay — Age 5

# Constructed Sculptures



How are these constructed sculptures different from other art forms? What skills are needed to create works like these?

Block tower — Age 5

What kind of environment do children need to do this kind of art?

Cardboard box purple monster — Ages 6 and 7

