

Exploring Creative Arts: 24 - 36 Months

Exploring different kinds of art will help your child:

- Express himself through a variety of materials
- Explore ways to move his body
- Sing and make up simple songs

Ideas to try with your child:

- Offer a variety of materials such as paint, crayons, markers, chalk, glue and natural objects to create art with your child. Supervise carefully!
- Take spray bottles filled with water outside and spray concrete and fences in different patterns.
- Play different kinds of music (fast, slow, and songs from different countries) to encourage your child to dance and experiment with different types of movement with ribbons, scarves and instruments.
- Make homemade instruments: an empty oatmeal container for a drum or rice in a plastic bottle for a shaker.

If your child is struggling:

- Use and offer your child a variety of non-toxic art materials to use regularly to help explore. Introduce new art materials as he is ready such as: paint, chalk, and clay.
- Sing and play a variety of familiar appropriate music for your child throughout the day: in the car, at home, at nap. Enjoy dancing along!

Going further:

- Talk to your child and show him different kinds of art such as prints, photographs and sculptures.
- Glue natural objects such as sticks, leaves, or bark on paper to make a collage.
- Larger rocks or pinecones can be painted with child-safe paint.
- Put a leaf under a piece of paper and rub with the side of an unpeeled crayon and see what you discover!

The WA State Department of Early Learning and the Richland School District believes that parents, families, and caregivers are young children's best teachers. This resource guide, part of *Strong Foundations for School: Resource Guides for Parents of Young Children*, highlights a key developmental skill for **children ages 24-36 months** that parents can help improve at home.



Adapted from *WA State Early Learning and Development Guidelines, 2012*: "Use a variety of materials to express self, such as paint crayons, and musical instruments" *Learning About My World, Ages-16-36 months*, pg. 51