

Basic Foundations

Birth to Three Years — Visual Arts

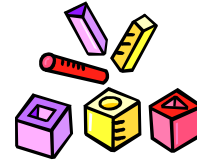
Visual arts are seen as an additional “language,” one in which children’s ideas and concepts are expressed in art media. (*Edwards, Gandini & Forman, 1998*)

Responding to and Creating



Young children are learning when they —

- * Focus on motions and movement—when watching someone move, a child is learning about the world around them visually.
- * Delight in the touch and feel of materials—hands-on feeling of textures helps a child develop the sensory differences in things they see.
- * Assign meaning to scribbles—every true artist had to start somewhere.
- * Use different colors, shapes, and textures to create a picture—learning about the differences in our world through art helps a child grow in many areas of education.



Adults are being supportive when they —

- * Place pictures or a mobile where a baby can focus on it—providing different “faces” other than family members helps a baby’s idea of the world grow.
- * Provide opportunities for the child to draw—always remembering to use safe materials: crayons, paint, and chalk that are non-toxic.
- * Encourage children to do art in their own way—remember that the process of creating is more important than the product.
- * Use the outdoors as a place for art—sidewalk chalk, sand, water, rocks, and wood all make beautiful art..

Websites for Fun and Ideas—

www.scholastic.com/earlylearner/timetogether/bandt/index.htm

www.hbwm.com

www.babyzone.com

Based on the
FOUNDATIONS to the Indiana Academic Standards
for Young Children from Birth to Age 5
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The Indiana Partnerships Center
921 E. 86th Street, Suite 108
Indianapolis, IN 46240
(317) 205-2595
(866) 391-1039
www.fscp.org



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