

Family Newsletter



THIS MONTH'S THEME Art Studio

This month your child will explore the beauty and creative freedom of art through the studies of shapes and colors. They will explore world famous artists like Picasso, van Gogh, Monet and others. Your child will explore different art forms, brush strokes, art tools and discover their own ways to use art for expressive purposes. Each week, they will investigate a different country's art, culture and traditions. This artistic adventure is sure to touch each child in a unique way.

Look for the daily notes about your child's art projects!

Today I made a printmaking stamp.

Prints are made in many different ways. I created my own stamping tool to make a specific pattern. I can find things in the room or outside and make prints.

Today I drew myself.

If I look in the mirror I can see my facial features. I drew my own self-portrait and discovered what color eyes and hair I have. This self-portrait is special because I created it and I can sign my name on it like an artist would.



ASK ME: What did you notice about your face? Did your self-portrait look similar or different than your friends?

preschool

Children are artists.

Art contributes to the development of the whole child. When children participate in the artistic process, they benefit from a range of social-emotional, motor and cognitive skills. It encourages self-expression, develops fine motor control, fosters spatial relations, builds concepts in seriating, supports problem-solving skills and extends attention span.

Follow these tips to set up an inspiring art studio in your room:

- Rotate a variety of materials through the area on a regular basis.
- Use transparent recycled plastic containers to store the materials.
- Use a variety of writing tools for your child to explore. Some examples include chalk, markers, colored pencils and crayons.
- Encourage your child to find items in nature to add to the art area. This will encourage them to look for beauty and value in all places.
- Set out primary paint colors (red, yellow, blue and white) and encourage your child to mix the colors to create secondary colors (green, purple, pink and orange).
- Try using kitchen utensils, toothbrushes, washable toys and other unique items for diverse painting and stamping experiences.
- Add textures and smells for your child to mix into their paint or sprinkle on top of their creations. Try adding sand, rice, cornmeal, flour, oatmeal or spices.
- Provide a variety of items that can help create 3D structures, such as recycled tubes, bottles, caps, tape, glue and other adhesives.
- Celebrate your child's art and display it at their eye level.



Topics your child
will explore this month:

Art in Italy

- Self-Portrait 1
- Portrait 2
- Printmaking 3
- Fresco & Mural 4
- Architecture 5

Art in France

- 6 Water & Landscape
- 7 Monet & Flowers
- 8 Haystacks & Texture
- 9 Pointillism
- 10 Modern Shape Art

Art Studio

Art in England

- Chalk Art 16
- Stenciling 17
- Coat of Arms 18
- Castle 19
- Museum Day 20

Art in the Netherlands & Spain

- 11 Starry Night
- 12 Sunflower
- 13 Mixing Colors
- 14 Cubism
- 15 Girl with a Pearl Earring



RECOMMENDED READS

Cuddle Up WITH A GOOD BOOK

Hands: Growing Up to Be an Artist
by Lois Elhert

The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse
by Eric Carle

I Am an Artist
by Pat Lowery Collins

To Be an Artist
by Maya Ajmera
& John D. Ivanko

Matisse: The King of Color
by Laurence Anholt

Artist Ted
by Andrea Beaty



I Am an Artist

(To the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot")

I am an artist.
Watch me create.
Here is my paintbrush.
Here is my paint.
When I get all steamed up,
I use my brain
To make a masterpiece really great!



Family Activities

Art Appreciation

Visit a local art museum, art school or art exhibit. Invite your child to share their knowledge of art forms and express their opinions. If you aren't able to find an art display close to your home, try a visit to the library for a book or virtual tour. Invite your child to find some of the masterpieces and artists that are part of the focus this month.

