

Process art

The experience of creating

Process art is child-led, open-ended, unique, and focused on exploration.

- With process art children are free to explore, make choices, and experiment without worrying about how it “should” look at the end.

Process art supports the whole child through:

- * Creativity and Imagination
- * Problem-solving and decision making
- * Fine Motor and Sensory development
- * Confidence and Pride

Process art can support children’s development:

- * Pre-writing skills
- * Language and Literacy
- * Math

Examples of Open-Ended Questions During Art

Describing the Process

- “Can you tell me about what you’re making?”
- “What made you choose those colors?”
- “How did you make that shape/line?”
- “What do you notice about the way the paint feels/looks?”

Encouraging Exploration

- “What else could you try with these materials?”
- “What happens if you mix these two colors together?”
- “How does it change if you use this tool instead?”
- “What other things could you add to your artwork?”

Supporting Problem-Solving

- “What can you do if the paper gets too wet?”
- “How might you make that piece stick?”
- “What’s another way you could show your idea?”

Focusing on Effort and Choice

- “I see you worked really hard on that part—what do you like about it?”
- “You picked a lot of different textures—what do you notice about them?”
- “Which part was the most fun to make?”

Connecting to Feelings and Stories

- “How does this artwork make you feel?”
- “Does your picture tell a story?”

When you set up an art activity, ask yourself:

“Am I valuing the child’s process, or am I pushing for a product?”