Through Art, Stages of Creative Art

STAGE 1 - Basic Scribbles—simple circles, lines, and random marks on paper

STAGE 2 - Diagram Shapes—ovals, squares, triangles, squares and diagonal crosses

STAGE 3 - Design Stage—combination of diagrams and shapes such as a radial sun

STAGE 4 - Pictorial Stage—designs are combined to make pictures of humans, houses, and plants

A child...

• Begins to learn shapes and colors.
• Builds self-confidence.
• Learns to make decisions by choosing different art materials.
• Has the opportunity to be creative.

An Art Center needs...

• To be located near a water source.
• Plastic tablecloths, newspaper or large paper to protect tables and floors.
• Painting smocks in order to protect children's clothing.
• A place to safely dry paintings.
• To be located near a water source.
1. Avoid models for children to copy or coloring sheets.
2. Emphasize the process over the product.
3. Creative art is messy.
4. Give children plenty of time for creative art.
5. Involve children in cleanup.
6. Try a new art activity before using it with the children.
7. Ask the child where they would like for you to put their name on the picture.
8. Allow the children to do the work themselves.
9. Encourage children to explore and experiment with the art materials.
10. Help parents understand that art is a process and provides opportunities to teach biblical truths to their children.

Guidance Suggestions for the Art Center

- Handle art tools carefully.
- Art materials are for creating.
- Use art materials as needed, encourage children not to be wasteful.
- Glue, paint, chalk, or any other art materials are not to be put in children’s mouths.
- Keep art materials in the art area.
- Only draw on your paper.
- Take turns using the art materials.
- Allow two to four in the art area at time (whatever you decide).

Adapted from Love, Laughter, and Learning by Mahand and Van Brink, Convention Press, 1996.