

Preschool Art Tip Sheet

The area set aside for art should be easily accessible and set up to facilitate creating art. There should be a table, chairs, and ample storage of materials. Materials for the art center should be neatly organized with like materials stored together.







Staff should encourage open-ended use of materials and limit the amount of non-creative art materials (coloring sheets/books, activities with a right and wrong way to complete, etc).

Art materials

Materials used must be in good condition – markers not dried out, crayons not broken and too short to use, colored pencils sharp, etc.

Children should have access to materials from the following categories.

<u>Drawing (required)</u> Includes anything that you can use to draw with – paper, crayons, markers, colored pencils, chalk, chalk board, dry erase markers, dry erase board, etc. <u>Paints</u> (ie. tempera, finger, watercolor, etc.)

<u>3-D</u> Includes any materials that would be used to create art that has depth and height to it. Pipe cleaners, wood pieces, styrofoam squares or circles, egg cartons, empty food boxes, paper towel tubes, craft sticks, etc.







<u>Collage</u> Includes any material used to create a collage picture. In order for collage materials to be useful there must be paper (drawing) to stick the materials too, and glue to attach the materials to the piece of paper. Glue, tissue paper, scrap paper, pompoms, cotton balls, ribbon, yarn, magazines, felt pieces, feathers, sequins, gems, etc. <u>Tools</u> Includes any tools needed to help create artwork. Scissors, hole punches, tape dispensers (with tape), play dough tools, stencils, etc.

Harms, T., Cryer, D. & Clifford, R. (2014) Early childhood environment rating scale (3rd ed.). New York, NY: Teacher's College Press.

Language to use in the Art Center

Examples of vocabulary words

- palette
- hue
- variation
- technique
- marbleized
- adhesive
- frame
- detail
- symmetry

- critical
- indigo
- gallery
- landscape
- masterpiece
- magnificent
- gorgeous
- exquisite
- perspective

Examples of open-ended questions

- What do you think we could do with...?
- Tell me what you created...
- How did you create ...?
- How did you make/use all of these colors?
- Tell me about what you are making/painting/drawing.
- What do you think we can do with...?
- What materials will you need?