

### Creativity and Young Children.

Creativity is the process of forming original ideas through exploration and discovery. In children, creativity develops from their daily experiences, however, the finished product is not a focus point; it is the process in which the children engage that makes a meaningful experience. Creativity is not about doing something better than others, it is about thinking, imagining, exploring, and discovering. Creativity is found in art and music but is also embedded in science, math, and free play. Because we think of art, music, dance, and drama as examples of creative ideas, we may have forgotten that creative thought is found in all aspects of a growing child's life and can be learned from daily experiences. Just look at how creativity shows itself when a scientist discovers a cure for a disease or how a business owner decides to increase sales. Creativity is a skill that needs to be fostered in the early years and practice all your life. I may be able to imagine the world without creative people, but I can't imagine the future without creative children.



Foster your child's creativity today! Here are some strategies:

- Emphasize process rather than a product.
- Provide an environment that allows children to explore and play.
- Adapt to children's ideas rather than trying to structure the children's ideas to fit the adult's.
- Allow time for children to explore all possibilities, moving from popular to more original ideas.
- Use common everyday objects for new uses. For example, paint with a rubber ball dipped in paint, change a book into a talking puppet, or turn a table over and make it a boat.

**'To stimulate creativity, one must develop the childlike inclination for play and the childlike desire for recognition.'**

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***A new book that supports creativity in young children!***

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