

discovery time

Aspiring Artist

Parents and caregivers, extend Discovery Time into your home. Share these fingerplays and activities with young children. **The letter for this theme is C.**

Five Little Crayons

Five little crayons, waiting in a row,
(Hold up five fingers)
The first one said, "I'm red you know."
(Hold up one finger, tap forehead)
The second one said, "I'm green like a tree."
(Hold up two fingers, wave arms above head)
The third one said, "I'm blue like the sea."
(Hold up three fingers,
move hands horizontally back and forth)
The fourth one said, "I'm as yellow as the sun."
(Hold up four fingers, circle arms above head)
The fifth one said, "Being purple is fun!"
(Hold up five fingers, point to smile)
Five little crayons, happy as can be,
(Hold up five fingers)
Coloring pictures with you and me!
(Wiggle fingers)

A Little Circle

A little circle,
(Shape hands to make a circle)
A bigger circle,
(Make a bigger circle with hands)
A great big circle I see.
(Make a big circle with arms)
Now let us count
The circles we've made:
One, two, three.
(Make all three sized circles)

Paint! Paint! Paint!

Tune: "Here We Go 'Round the Mulberry Bush"

This is the way we paint our picture,
Paint our picture, paint our picture.
This is the way we paint our picture.
Paint! Paint! Paint!
(Hold an imaginary brush and make big
paint strokes up and down)

This is the way we mold the clay,
Mold the clay, mold the clay.
This is the way we mold the clay.
Mold! Mold! Mold!
(Pretend to mold and shape some clay)

This is the way we cut and glue,
Cut and glue, cut and glue.
This the way we cut and glue.
Cut! Cut! Glue!
(Pretend to cut with scissors with one hand
and spread glue with the other)

Find the Color

(Tune: "The Muffin Man")
Oh, can you find the color red,
The color red, the color red?
Oh, can you find the color red,
Somewhere in this room?
(Continue with other colors)



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Help your child get ready to read with these simple activities.

- **Talking:** Take your child to visit an art exhibit. (Some of the Library locations have an art gallery.) Talk about the shapes, colors, and materials used in the artwork and how it makes your child feel. This will sharpen his observation skills and encourage creativity.
- **Singing:** Sing the “Find the Color” song with your child. The words are on the reverse side of this handout. Have fun finding colors together!
- **Reading:** Children are never too young for classic art. The Library collection includes many art appreciation books, including the *Mini Masters* series of board books, which pair fun rhyming text and famous paintings for even the youngest aspiring artists.
- **Writing:** With your child, draw pictures on the sidewalk with colored chalk. Have her write her name to “sign” her masterpiece.
- **Playing:** Early art activities should focus on the creative process more than a finished product. Give your child opportunities for open-ended exploration and play during daily activities. Let him make soap bubble sculptures in the bath or draw with his finger on a steamy mirror.

family literacy tip

Art and Literacy

Early literacy doesn't just revolve around teaching children how to recite letters, read, and count—art can have a profound effect on their literacy and development as well. The importance of exposing kids to art early in life is often undervalued. But giving young children an appreciation for art encourages exploration, self-expression, logical thinking, self-esteem, imagination, and creativity. Early art experiences also teach kids to think openly, create new meaning, and be more tolerant of others' differences.

Stewart, Charlina. “Early Art: What it Means and How to Encourage It.” *PBS Parents Education*. www.pbs.org/parents/education/music-arts/early-art-what-it-means-and-how-to-encourage-it. Accessed 4 Mar. 2019.



weber county library