

# MAKING ART and YOUR CHILDREN

**Enjoy discussing your child's artwork with them!  
When they show you something...**

## **TRY TO SAY:**

Wow, look at all the colors you used  
You really worked hard on this!  
What would you like to draw/paint/make next?  
When in doubt, smile and say "Hmmm" 😊  
I see thin lines over here and thick lines over there  
Tell me about your drawing/painting/sculpture

## **TRY NOT TO SAY:**

Draw me a pretty picture  
That's pretty  
You need to color inside the lines  
I don't have any place to hang this up  
WHAT is this?  
That looks like a truck (let them tell you what is going on / it may change moment by moment)

Jean Van't Hul, *The Artful Parent*, 2013

## **A Few Ideas About Creative Thinking...**

"Creativity is inventing, experimenting, growing, taking risks, breaking rules, making mistakes, and having fun."

Mary Lou Cook, author

"Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try!"

Dr. Seuss, author (born March 2, 1904 – died September 24, 1991)

"Creative people are curious, flexible, persistent, and independent with a tremendous spirit of adventure and a love of play."

Henri Matisse, artist (born December 31, 1869-died November 3, 1954)

"Art is everywhere, except it has to pass through a creative mind."

Louise Nevelson, artist (born September 23, 1899-died April 17, 1988)