

Art for Two

Primary Objectives

2a. Forms relationships with adults

Why It's Important

When your child feels comfortable with a familiar adult, she may be more willing to try new experiences with the adult assisting her. By offering to do a new activity one-on-one with your child, you balance the familiarity of your presence with the adventure of trying something new.

Materials

Watercolor paints; paintbrush; paper; smock; small cup of water

What You Do

1. Set up the watercolors, water, and paper at a table. If you do not have watercolors, substitute other art materials such as crayons, washable markers, or supplies for making a collage.
2. Invite your child to paint with you at the table. Ask her to put on her smock.
3. Give her paper and paints with which to experiment. If she has never used watercolors, demonstrate or explain how to first dip the brush into the water to make the paint wet.
4. As you work together, ask questions about her painting. *What color would you like to use next?*
5. Keep the experience interactive so that she feels close to you at all times. *I see that you are using the color red. It is very bright on the paper.*
6. Allow your child to paint for as long as she is interested. Talk with her about other activities that you think she may wish to try with your support.