



Art Activities with Readers ages 0-3

Age Range:

Ideas:

Newborn

Show and Tell: She'll watch and listen to whatever you show and tell.

Talk: Talk about colors, shapes and pictures.

Sitting

Make a handprint out of clay or playdough.

Crawling

Bring safe objects that are the same color to the floor. Together, explore each "blue" object and talk about it.

Cruising/Walking

Make some home-made playdough. Break off a lump of white dough and add a drop of food coloring to create different colored play dough.

Beginning to Talk

Draw big shapes on the ground with sidewalk chalk. Ask him to step inside the square or jump in the circle.

Draw lines together in the sand or dirt using a stick, fingers or feet.

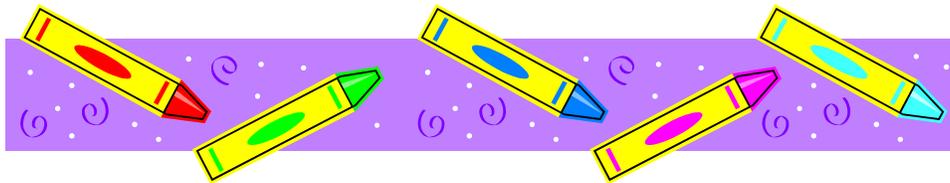
Talking (ALL THE TIME)

Have them tell you a story! Then, one or both of you draw the pictures. Write out the words just how they told you the story and staple the story together for your own book.

Talk a little bit about style – did the artist paint the pictures? Did they use paper to make them or draw them?

The Elements of Children's Book Art:

- **Color:** red, blue and yellow are the primary colors. All other colors can be made by mixing these three and shaded by adding black or white.
- **Line:** A line is the track made by a point moving in space.
- **Shape:** Wherever the ends of a line meet, a shape is formed.
- **Space:** two or three dimensional, positive (the main object) or negative (the background.)
- **Balance:** The arrangement of the lines, shapes and colors.
- **Emphasis:** Where your eye goes first in a picture.
- **Pattern/Rhythm:** Repeated shapes, lines or colors create movement and rhythm.



Books About Color

- *Mouse Paint*, Ellen Stoll Walsh. Three white mice hop, mix and splash in their puddles, missing new colors as they move.
- *Color Farm*, Lois Ehlert. This board book uses shapes and cut outs to create the animals.

Books About Shape

- *My Shapes/Mis Formas*, Rebecca Emberly. Bright and Bold shapes for toddlers.
- *Little Cloud*, Eric Carle. Clouds transform into a plane, a shark and a clown.

Books with Patterns

- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you See?* Eric Carle. Each animal sees another in this playful pattern boon. Pictures are all formed by collage of painted paper.
- *The Napping House*, Audrey Wood. More and more children and pets are added to Granny's bed on each page!

Books about Line and Balance

- *Ten Black Dots*, Donald Crews. What can you do with ten black dots? You can make all sorts of pictures! It's a great counting book too.
- *Lunch*, Denise Fleming. A little mouse makes a mess while eating his lunch. each page includes just one illustration, and a hint of what's to come.

Books about Making Art Together

- *10 Minute Activities: Fun Things to Do for You and your Child*, Priddy Bicknell.
- *Ed Emberly's Drawing Book of Animals*
- *Wonderplay: interactive and Developmental Games, Crafts and Creative Activities for Infants, toddlers and Preschoolers.*