

Activity Sheet

Drawing with alphabets

- **Drawing develops your kid’s problem-solving skills:** When drawing, a child is faced with multiple decisions- whether it’s ‘what colour should I use here?’ or ‘How do I draw a animal and connect one part of its body to another?’ All these questions require them to solve problems.
- **It lets their imagination run wild:** Drawing enables your child’s imagination to become more active. Each time they draw they access their imagination and make physical representations of what is in their mind.
- **Drawing gets your little ones school ready:** Drawing is one of the early foundations of logical thinking or abstract thought. Whether your child is still at home with you or at school already, drawing helps them prepare for understanding more difficult concepts. Learning these creative ways of thinking at an early age readies a child for future education. Provide your kids with a variety of materials to draw with, for example crayons, paint, chalk – and don’t forget digital media tools too, to help them get used to the tablets and other computers that they’re sure to use frequently in the future.
- **Time spent drawing also helps to develop the strength and coordination in the shoulder, wrist and fingers for needed for engaging in handwriting tasks.**
- **Fine motor skills:** Grasping pencils, crayons, chalk and paintbrushes helps children develop their fine motor muscles. This development will help your child with writing, buttoning a coat and other tasks that require controlled movements.
- **Cognitive development:** Art can help children learn and practice skills like patterning and cause and effect (i.e., “If I push very hard with a crayon the colour is darker.”). They can also practice critical thinking skills by making a mental plan or picture of what they intend to create and following through on their plan.
- **Math skills:** Children can learn, create and begin to understand concepts like size, shape, making comparisons, counting and spatial reasoning.
- **Language skills:** As children describe and share their artwork, as well as their process, they develop language skills. You can encourage this development by actively listening and asking open-ended questions in return. It is also a great opportunity to learn new vocabulary words regarding their project (i.e., texture).

In addition to helping youth develop important skills, free expression is also good for overall health and well-being. Giving your child a creative outlet can help relieve stress and work through things happening in their lives. By encouraging artistic expression, you can help facilitate learning.

<https://youtu.be/BH9dt-cksPA>

