

## Top Ten Art Activities With Children

1. **Musical Art!** Put on any type of music that inspires you and paint how you think the music would look (like Wassily Kandinsky!)
2. **Freeze Game!** Start drawing with a pencil. When the partner says "freeze", the other person continues the drawing at the exact point the first person left off. Continue until the work is done!
3. **Chance Art!** Take two containers and some small sheets of paper. In one container, write as many colours down as you can think of. (Eg. purple, red, orange, gold, yellow) Fold on separate pieces of paper and put in container. In the next container, list as many nouns as you can think of. (Eg. bird, tree, skyscraper, window). Now choose 3 colours from the first container and 3 nouns from the second container. Now you have an idea for your artwork. You can only use those colours and nouns in your artwork. See what you can create!
4. **Murals!** Go to your local newspaper establishment and ask for the "end of the roll" newsprint for a couple of dollars. This is a really inexpensive way for parents and children to experiment with drawing or painting LARGE or create a mural!
5. **Watercolour!** Gather some watercolour paper and some watercolour pencil crayons or watered down acrylic paints. Get a spray bottle, a cloth, a sponge and some brushes. Spray the paper with water first THEN put the paint on. See what happens!
6. **See the world through artist's eyes!** Gather a small matte board frame from any dollar store. Go outside or in your own looking through the viewfinder. Carry a sketchbook and draw or paint an interesting composition that you see!
7. **Set up a Still Life!** Gather lots of interesting colours, textures, 3-D objects and arrange on a table. Have fun with various art materials observing all or parts of the still life with your art materials from various perspectives.
8. **Go to a gallery or museum!** Look at art work in various galleries in the city. Take time to view art works in virtual galleries as well. Be curious! Ask questions! Take time to stop, think, wonder and share! What do you think the artist was thinking? What do you like? What do you not like? Start sentences with " I wonder", " what if?" " why not? " Look up close and far away. View the art from many angles. Take your time and enjoy!
9. **Observe!** Great artists observe everything around them! Go on a nature walk or a walk in the city or around your own house or yard. Draw or paint what you see, not what you think you see. Observe lines, shapes, colours and textures. Notice details. Take photographs too!
10. **Plaster casts!** Make a mask or hand with plaster bandages. When it's dry, you can paint the plaster or attach various decorations on like feathers, beads, metallic paint, jewels, ribbon...etc.