

Fall News from the Art Room

What I want to offer my students in the Art Room is the understanding that art should never be stagnant, but reflect change, growth and progress. This is true of Art History, of one's personal artistic growth, and of art education.



In the early years of being a creative person we are given new materials constantly -- crayons, chocolate pudding, sand, mud, water, glue, blocks, straws. As parents and teachers we continually supply our children with media that can be manipulated. Sometimes we will think of it as working on small motor skills. I always think of it as building our creative muscles and our physical muscles simultaneously.

In the Art Room I expose the students to new materials, techniques and styles. Here they enjoy the process and use their own creative minds to experiment. Exposing them to others' (and each others') work and then reflecting on it is another part of my classroom routine. They use techniques and styles they see someone else use so they can grow as artists.

I also try to give our children safe boundaries to take risks with their creative endeavors. I want them to know that taking risks is crucial to growing as an artist. It could be as simple as using a new style of a "nose" on a portrait or mixing their own colors from the primary colors. "Get dangerous," I say to some of those timid students who ask permission to step out of their comfort zone.



How are you feeling by 1st graders

These are just a few things I am reflecting on this fall as I start the year with your children. I am looking forward to another great year with these young artists. Feel free to visit us to see what we're up to.

In the Art Room

Kathy