



Art

Things To Look Forward To

Here are some ideas for children newborn to three.

Heads Up (Newborn-1 month) - Create a gallery of a few bright pictures in the crib or on the wall by the changing table.

The Looker (1-4 months) - Make your own mobile using seasons, colors, toys, etc. as the theme. Change the mobile frequently. Your baby will become bored with old objects and will not look at them. Your baby will get enjoyment out of new things hanging over the crib.

Creeper-Crawler (4-8 months) - Let your Crawler draw on a fogged up mirror in the bathroom. She will enjoy making designs on the mirror, but she will get a bigger thrill from seeing her own image in the mirror.

The Cruiser (8-12 months) - This is a good age to experiment with foods, such as Jello, oatmeal, or pudding. Show your nine month old how to scribble on paper with a fat crayon. In no time, she will be able to do it herself. Tape the paper to the tray of the highchair.

The Walker (12-18 months) - Keep a box of crayons and a small spiral tablet in your diaper bag for your toddler. You will be surprised how many times you will pull them out for your young artist to express her creativity when you are waiting for a doctor's appointment, riding on the bus, etc. Scribbling comes in other forms as well. Let your artist experiment with water base markers, water colors, finger paints, glue, play dough and chalk to name a few.

The Doer (18-24 months) - Find a place in your home for an art corner. Set aside a space for art supplies and materials. Make sure the materials are non-toxic, can be easily stored, and can be used with minimal assistance. Your Doer will love any activity that involves glue.

The Tester (24-36 months) - Your tester is ready to work with tempera paints or watercolors. Find a space for this activity. Cover the floor with newspaper or plastic. Secure the paper to the tabletop or easel with masking tape. Mix up two or three colors and have a separate brush for each color. A plastic trash bag makes a good disposable paint smock. Be sure that toddlers do not play with you supply of trash bags. They are a suffocation hazard. Cut holes for the head and arms. The tester may enjoy other art activities such as: marble painting (rolling marbles in a shallow pan or box with a small amount of tempera paint), blow painting (using a straw to blow a small amount of tempera paint on a piece of paper) and string painting (pulling a small piece of paint-soaked string across a piece of paper.)

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