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Family Art Activities

At Home

Share poems that you enjoy and help your child feel the rhythm in the poems. Create found poetry using your favorite words from other literary sources.

Let your child practice photography on a disposable or digital camera, or even on a cell phone.

Keep paper and pencils, markers, crayons, and paint on hand so that your child can express his/herself.

Make videos together. Try organizing the shots ahead of time to tell a story as in filmmaking.

Introduce your child to art forms intrinsic to your own culture, ancestry, and heritage.

Watch public television together—it offers cultural programming for adults and children alike.

Play different kinds of music from the radio or your own collection.

Online

The Kennedy Center's website has an amazing collection of performing arts videos.
www.kennedy-center.org/explorer

Visit Google Art Project to virtually tour some of the world's most famous museums. Also, zoom into select works of art so close that you can even see the cracks in the paint!
www.googleartproject.com

Visit blogs like Tinkerlab to discover many hands-on activities and projects to do with your child. Each project is designed to expand your child's observation and imagination skills.
www.Tinkerlab.com

In Your Community

Attend college or school productions of music, dance, and theater. These often cost less to attend than many professional venues.

Visit your local museums to see art of different kinds. Museums often offer special events and classes at free or reduced rates for children.

Enroll in community classes—anything from drawing and dance to musical instruments, singing, or theater classes. Many community arts organizations also offer lessons for a fee on a sliding scale.

Check out community arts festivals, craft fairs, and seasonal celebrations.

Patronize professional orchestras, ballets, operas, and more to help your child experience artistic excellence.

For more ways to help your child enjoy the arts outside of school, visit www.AmericansForTheArts.org/Activities



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