



### Quotes from the field with tips for parents and families

“Experience art with him; enjoy the art project around us.”

#### Here's how . . .

Identify art in your community. View the artworks with your child. Find out what appeals to him and attracts his attention. Discuss with your child what draws him to a picture or artwork compared with others. What is his favorite and why? Share your own favorites. Ask for his ideas and opinions. What does he “see” in the art you are viewing together? Be sure to accept and support any of his opinions and consider his responses opportunities to explore his deeper thoughts. Sharing in this kind of experience provides a chance for a rich language exchange with your child.

#### Why is this important?

Parents and families actively influence their children during early childhood and beyond. Children grow and thrive in the context of close and dependable relationships with their families. These strong relationships provide the love, security and responsive interaction that encourage exploration.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Schonkoff, J. & Phillips, D. (Eds.) (2000). *From neurons to neighborhoods: The science of early childhood development*. Washington, DC. National Academy Press.