



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

"Connect all areas of child development through the arts."

#### Here's how . . .

Offer your child a chance to express her thoughts by acting out a story or event, singing, or responding to and playing musical instruments. The creative arts can involve many areas of development and learning. For example, dance and music not only encourage self-expression, but can include the development of language, communication skills, and motor skills.

#### Why is this important?

Active involvement in the arts helps to create brain connections that support children's learning. Children learn through new experiences. They connect what they already know to create new understandings. They re-organize old thoughts and ideas to make sense of their new experiences. The creative arts invite children to use their minds and senses. They invite children to broaden and deepen skills such as observation, problem-solving, physical strength and coordination, self-expression, listening and speaking. These skills and understandings are the foundations of school readiness. All of these are key learning and development goals that are included in Head Start and/or your state early learning standards.

