



The Parent's Role in Children's Art Experiences: **BUILDING BLOCKS** TO INCREASE YOUR CHILD'S SELF-CONFIDENCE AND SELF-ESTEEM

1 Knowing what to say: **Elevates Self-Esteem**

Suggested questions: Would you like to tell me about your project? Is there a story about what you have made? Tell me about it!

This gives your child the opportunity to share with you their story, ideas, and thoughts about their artwork. Self-esteem soars! *(And you just might be amazed!)*

1A. Avoid saying:

What is that? -or- What are you drawing? Is that a picture of...?

Be mindful: do not label the end product - "I like your dog", because it might not be a dog, but a dinosaur! - Or I like that drawing of the sun – *...it could be a rocket!*

2 Commenting on the process: **Increases Self-Confidence**

- "You are making your hand go around and around with the paint brush!"
- "Look, you are moving your hand from one corner of the paper to the other!"

3 Creating **dialogue** on the "how" and/or the "product"

- "You've made little dots around your extra large yellow line".
- "You've drawn a small circle inside the big circle". "How did you make that color?"

These "art dialogues" will benefit your child in a variety of ways. YOU are providing an opportunity for your child to increase his/her self-confidence and self-esteem along with developing their creative and critical thinking skills.