

Art

FCCERS-R Indicator	Why is this important?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toddlers (12 to 30 months) are offered different art materials at least 3 times a week. Preschoolers and older children have drawing materials accessible for much of the day. Preschoolers and older children have a variety of different art materials accessible daily. <p>Definition: Much of the day – is associated with the children's access to materials typically used indoors (books, art materials, and fine motor or dramatic play toys). It means that most of the time that any child is awake and able to play. No wait times or inactive times longer than 3 minutes. They must have access to materials for Much of the Day.*Observation note* If any child is prevented from reaching and using materials for a total of 20 minutes during the 3 – hour observation much of the day cannot be given credit.</p> <p>Definition: Accessible – children don't have to ask the teacher to get/open materials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early experiences with art can provide opportunities to practice eye-hand coordination. Simple art materials such as crayons and paper give toddlers opportunities to use the hands and arms in a new way. Toddlers who are able to handle materials with more skill and self-control require more frequent art experiences.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All art materials used with children are certified by the ACMI and show the AP seal. Food should not be used as art materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toxic materials may cause harm if used and ingested. Unsafe materials that pose a safety hazard (choking or cutting) may cause serious injuries. Using food for art can give a misleading message about the proper use of food. At this age, they are learning about the proper uses of food; to eat neatly, use a fork/spoon, not to smear or play with food.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children should not be forced to participate in an art activity. At least 2 alternative activities should be available to children who are not engaged or enjoying the activity. Children should be allowed to show individual expression, children can select the subject and/or the medium to use. They should not be asked to copy an example or use color sheets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expecting young children to participate in a large-group art activity or to follow adult-created examples is not appropriate. Young children are more interested in the process of creating rather than in the end product. Toddlers also have short attention spans and they enjoy selecting activities that are of interest to them. They learn more when they select things that interest them.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff should facilitate and supervise during the use of art materials.• Access to art materials should be based on children's abilities. Make available with close supervision with younger children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff guidance is important in helping toddlers successfully and properly use art materials. Do not confuse with individual expression. Facilitating is intended for the purpose of preventing frustration and disappointment when children use art materials.• Younger toddlers are more likely to eat materials, carry them around the room, drop them, or spill them and therefore, need closer supervision.
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SOURCE: Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS)

