



Children and Creativity

Corner Counselors

“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he or she grows up.”

Pablo Picasso

This quote from the artist, Pablo Picasso, suggests that children have a natural inclination towards creativity. Everything is possible for a child, and children are able to dream of possibilities without limit. This creativity is not bounded by the constraints that are imposed on people during adulthood.

Young children are in the beginning stages of discovering what their unique interests and talents are. This process of discovery often involves the child rotating rapidly between interests. For example, the child may be interested in taking piano lessons one week, and then focusing on playing soccer the next, and then taking art classes the next. This frequent change in interests is a normal part of the process of discovery that children are actively engaged in.

Picasso's quote suggests that adulthood brings with it a certain degree of constraint in which adults must suppress the artist within themselves. As adults, we often lose a piece of the artistic, or creative, side of ourselves as we grow older. Many adult careers do not encourage adult workers to be creative and imaginative, and can contribute to this loss of creativity in adulthood.

Children have the opportunity to explore an unlimited number of interests, and to discover the activities to which they are most attracted, some of which may become lifelong hobbies.

Mr. Keenan