

So what's all this about 'process art'?

Process art puts the focus on children **making, doing, trying** and **experimenting with materials** to create unique art experiences. **The result is not as important as the process. Children discover things about themselves and how they respond to the world around them as they create. Stories evolve in their artworks, often with the actual artwork only being the tip of the iceberg of their story creations.** Each time they learn something new - about mixing colours, about what will or won't stick, or a different way of doing things to get the desired result. It's a class where the things that don't work are just as important as the things that do.

What are the benefits of process art?

Develops creativity

Children express their own artistic ideas through exploring a range of techniques and materials to create their own unique artworks, focusing on the learning experience rather than the end result.

Sensory exploration

Process art provides opportunity for sensory experiences which is an important part of childhood. Children are provided with hands on learning experiences to make connections, examine, categorise, and discover more about the world around them.

Improve fine motor skills

Process art provides children with the opportunity to strengthen their fine motor skills required for writing through manipulating the small muscles in their hands, wrists and fingers by engaging in activities such as cutting, gluing, painting, sticking and drawing.

Practice literacy skills

Children engage in enriching literacy experiences through conversation, asking questions, learning new words and expressing ideas. By combining literacy and art experiences through story-telling children are enhancing their verbal creativity and visual language in order to make connects with their artwork.

Develop social and emotional skills

Process art develops their social and emotional skills. Children can learn about cooperation, sharing, collaboration, empathy and emotional regulation by engaging in the artistic process in a safe, supportive and reflective way.

Develop decision-making skills

Children compare, predict, plan and problem solve to make independent choices when participating in process art. Children have the freedom of choice, thought and feeling to express themselves - there is no right or wrong way.

Improve confidence

Experimenting with materials and making new connections helps build creative confidence and self-esteem.

Engage in play

Children learn primarily through play. Process art provides opportunities for children to engage in decision making, problem solving and cause and effect understanding. Children can explore materials, discover limitations and conduct experiments with endless possibilities.





In summary...

Process Art	Product Art
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is child-directed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is adult-driven
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebrates the experience of discovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offers the child clear steps that have to be followed
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Asks "I wonder what would happen if..."	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has a specific outcome in mind
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has unique outcomes with no two pieces looking alike	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expects the final product to look like a sample
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shows how to use a material for its properties rather than its placement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has expectations around a right and wrong way to do it