



Talking With Kids About Art

When discussing art with kids, either their own art or art they are viewing, we offer the following tips in an effort to enhance the discussion:

- **Don't try to talk about everything in the gallery.**
 - Let the kids decide which works they want to discuss.
 - Ask them why they selected one piece over another?
 - Ask them what they "see" in the works they selected.
- **Focus on how the piece was created, not the end product. Talk about the shape, color, line, pattern and subject matter.**
 - How did the artist create the piece?
 - Did they use a brush or hands to create the artwork?
 - What's interesting in how the artist used line, shape, color and pattern?
- **Let the kids tell you what they think about the art; allow them to relate to you how they feel without giving them a grownup opinion.**
 - What did you first notice about the art?
 - What do you like about the artwork? What do you not like and why?
 - What do you think the artist is trying to say?
- **Recommendations we would NOT like to hear from adults when talking with kids:**
 - Who ever heard of a green cat?
 - Anyone can do that!
 - That isn't art!
- **What we LOVE to hear from adults when talking with kids:**
 - If you created this, how would you change it?
 - If this was your artwork what would you title it?

We hope this has helped with your art discussions!