





Creative expression

Families and teachers: the early childhood and primary school curricula use the creative arts to help children express themselves.

You can encourage young children to express themselves creatively while playing, or while watching educational shows like *Sesame Street* together.



Watch together

While you're watching Sesame Street or other educational content together build on what children are noticing and encourage them to express themselves as well.

Act it out

You can act out and make up extra scenes from *Elmo the Musical* or children's favourite scenes.

- ☐ Pre-school and primary school children can think about what might happen next or what happened before.
- ☐ Primary school children can write out their scene, then act it out with their friends, teachers, or family members.
- ☐ Infants and toddlers can enjoy dancing and copying the exaggerated movements.



Play and learn together

Explore freely

- ☐ Let children explore art materials freely!
- ☐ Their imaginations can do a lot with crayons, paper, boxes and free items like flowers, shiny foil and leaves.

Make up songs and dances together

- ☐ Choose a simple, familiar tune or children's favourite song. Then, ask children to suggest a topic they'd like to sing about and make up a few words or lines and sing it to your tune.
- ☐ As long as you're having fun you've made a great song!
- ☐ Then, encourage children to add some dance moves you can do together.
- ☐ Children can learn more about another culture's dances by looking it up in books or online. Then, try them out together while listening to that type of music.



Talk together

While you're playing and being creative together, let children describe what they're making or doing.

Ask questions like:

- ☐ Tell me about your drawing please.
- ☐ Why did you decide to make a ___? What else are you going to add?
- ☐ Can you teach me your dance? What should I do next?



Links to Sesame Street content

Here are some related songs and Sesame Street clips on YouTube:

- ✓ <u>"Sesame Street: Believe in Yourself!</u>

 Positive Aspirations Song"
- ✓ <u>"Sesame Street: Imagination (Word of the Day Podcast)"</u>

Visit Sesame Workshop

for many more related activities, printables, and video-based suggestions like:

- ✓ "Art"
- ✓ "Physical Activity"
- ✓ "Learning Through Play"

to play online games like:

✓ <u>"Make Your Mark"</u>



Links to find out more together

Local resources

- ✓ <u>The Ministry of Education and Youth's</u>

 <u>Game-Based & Interactive Learning</u>

 Activities for Early Years
- ✓ <u>Curricular resources</u> like the Resource Book and curriculum guides from the Early Childhood Commission
- ✓ Digital library Book Fusion has free books https://www.bookfusion.com/libraries/MO EYI
- ✓ The children's book <u>I Have Feelings</u> (https://bit.ly/ihavefeelings) suggests constructive ways to express yourself

Other resources

- ✓ Play online games like <u>"Colorrific Art Show"</u> or <u>music and arts games at www.pbskids.org/games</u>
- ✓ <u>Global Digital Library</u> has 6,000+ free books in over 83 languages (https://digitallibrary.io/)
- ✓ <u>Room to Read's</u> free digital library (https://literacycloud.org/)

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