

September Keep Kids Creative

September's monthly theme is a focus on helping our children feed their creativity. The third week of the month is dedicated as National Keep Kids Creative Week; originally created by an illustrator who wanted to see more children become inspired to use their imagination.



What is creativity?

A child's creativity is not limited to paper and crayons. Allowing a child to tell a story, draw a picture, gaze at clouds or stars, play with mud or blocks can all fuel creativity. Creativity is the ability to have original ideas and to use one's imagination. The important element is giving children enough time to truly build in their experience.

Fun Family Book

This month we highlight a book that promotes the power of imaginary play. "In My Room" by Jo Witek is a delightful book that shares the journeys a little girl takes while in her room. Through the power of imagination, she can be anything and go wherever she wishes.

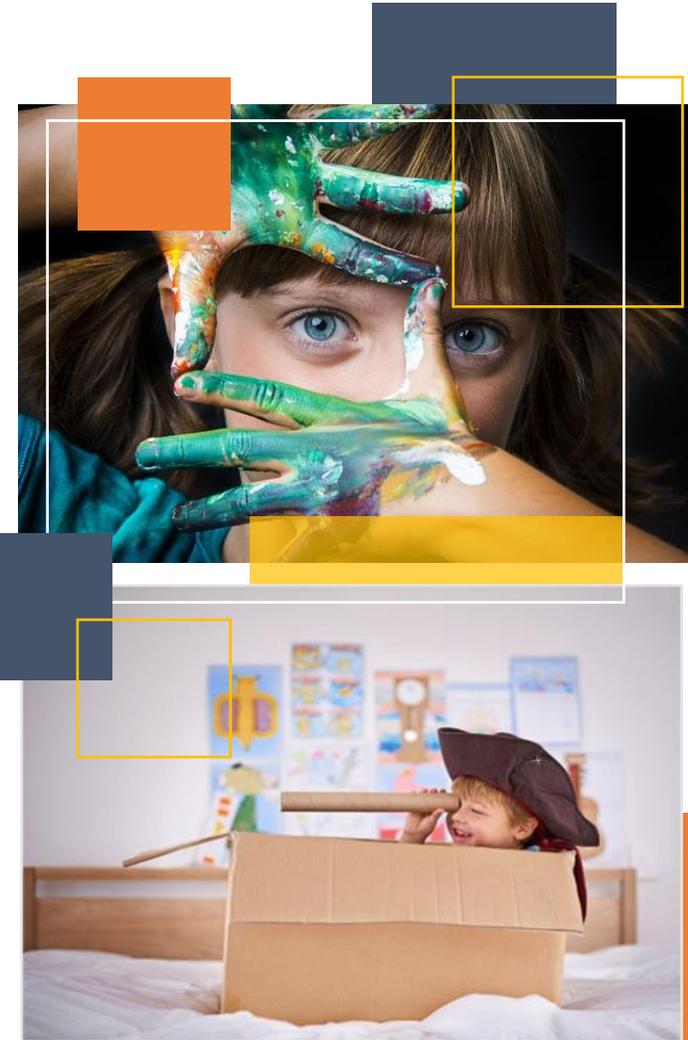
<https://www.amazon.com/My-Room-Creativity-Imagination-Growing/dp/1419726447>

**Keep Kids
Creative
Week**



MLC September Family Minutes

A resource from our family to yours





The benefits of allowing a child to be creative.

Being creative is an outlet for children to express their emotions. It provides them with freedom from judgement and space. No fear of being messy. Creativity can build language skills, fine and gross motor skills, as well as problem solving skills.

“You can’t use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.” – Maya Angelou

Tools that spark creativity

There is no reason to spend money when you can look around the house. Let them play dress up with your older clothes, have them tell you a story and write it word for word. They can draw the illustrations after. A blanket and table can become a fort, castle, or gnome home. Start a story and every day add another line. Allow for different areas to become creative places such as fingerpaints in the bathtub, or painting on a window, or chalk outside.

What limits or stifles a child from being creative?

There are several factors that result in a child not reaching their full creative potential.

1. **Lack of time.** Children often have a very busy schedule between school, sports, and religious activities.
2. **Misguided focus.** Often adults give higher praise for work that is recognizable vs. allowing for the child to simply enjoy the process of creating while not worrying about the outcome.
3. **Technology.** Having access to electronic games, movies and television will entertain a child but take away their desire to dream up their own stories.



Resources

<https://www.brucevanpatter.com/keepkidscreative.html>

<https://www.brucevanpatter.com/kidslosecreativity.html>

<https://parents-together.org/30-day-family-creativity-challenge/>

<https://www.airfungames.com/party-rental-resources/what-is-national-keep-kids-creative-week>