**Importance of Art in Early Childhood Development**

**Art** is an expression of human creative skills and imaginations, usually in a visual form such as painting, sculptures or producing works to be appreciated for their beauty or emotional power. It has a number of importance in developing early childhood which are as follows;

1. **Development of Reading Skills.**

Art helps children to learn by paying attention to details through creative thinking, critical thinking and problem- solving.

1. **Acquisition of Social Skills**

Art helps to develop skills such as the sense of self in children, reasoning, imagination, creativity, expressing himself and communication hence supporting all developmental fields in children.

1. **Time Management**

Children take time to grasp concepts which may lead to them giving up on tasks assigned to them. Art helps them manage their time well as it requires grasping of keen concepts to bring out the best.

1. **Promoting Self-esteem**

Self- esteem is essential in the growth of a child thus art helps a child grow a strong perception of themselves hence creating self- confidence.

1. **Persistence and Consistence**.

Art requires continuous working on the same thing the same way over time in spite of whichever challenges on the way. This helps children have persistence and consistence in their work.

1. **Creativity and Imagination**

Being able to be creative through art stimulates parts of the brain that are responsible for cognition, particularly when it comes to learning, problem solving, focus, and memory. This enables ability to imagine new features and put them down on paper. Even art has obstacles and challenges, and when you're given the opportunity to think, you look for ways of approaching them.

1. **Learning of new Vocabularies**.

Art supports language acquisition such reading, learning, writing and listening. Different Art sessions help expose children learn new vocabularies hence improving their skills in art work.

1. **Creates Awareness of the Culture and Surrounding**

The world is becoming globalized thus requires for one to know different cultures and environment. Art is one of the best ways to achieve this. It provides a platform to learn another culture, and help to build awareness and understanding of that culture through ways such as representation of the culture that is different from one’s own. This can help to broaden one’s understanding and appreciation of that culture.

1. **Creates Unity among Learners**

Learners can share new ideas and experience so as to bring out the best results. This improves unity among learners. This also helps them to be kind to each other and interact well amongst themselves.

1. **Improving Personal Qualities**

Art helps children form a deeper connection with their emotions as it creates self-awareness and opens their mind to new ideas. Art can allow for a very personal experience as it is expressed in ways which words cannot, through shapes, colors, lines and images.