

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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ART OF THE YOUNG CHILD - 3 to 5 YEARS PUBLISHED BY THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, NY

Art of the Young Child - 3 to 5 Years by Jane Cooper Bland, published this winter by the Museum of Modern Art, deals with a childhood period only recently recognized as among the most vital and fruitful years in the creative development of the individual.

"Art to the child," Mrs. Bland says in her introduction, "is more than a matter of painting pictures or making objects. It is a means by which he expresses his individuality and communicates his ideas about himself and his world....The art of the young child is probably the most difficult for the average adult to understand. It may appear to be mere scribbles and color patches of fantastic shapes made of clay and other materials. Nevertheless, these are extremely important. They have real meaning for the child and can be guideposts toward understanding and helping him in his growth."

In her book, which is profusely illustrated with black and white photographs of children at work as well as color plates of collages and paintings by children at different stages of development, Mrs. Bland discusses what to expect of children at different ages, how their growth can be seen in their paintings and ways in which adults can give children the fundamentals - opportunity, time, encouragement and respect. She concludes with suggestions for how to select and store inexpensive, easily obtainable art materials.

Mrs. Bland, a graduate of Columbia University, has taught children's and adult classes at the Museum of Modern Art since 1943. This summer she will be at the Children's Creative Center in the US Pavilion at the Brussels Worlds Fair which is being presented by the Museum's Department of Education, under the direction of Victor D'Amico.

Art of the Young Child is the second publication produced as part of the Art Education Study Program undertaken by the Department of Education of the Museum. The first is a pamphlet, "Clichés in Children's Paintings," by Jean d'Autilia and other members of the staff of the People's Art Center.

Art of the Young Child - 3 to 5 Years. 48 pages; 90 plates (40 in color); paper \$2.95. Review copies and photographs are available on request from Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, NY, 11 West 53 Street. Circle 5-8900.