"It took me 4 years to paint like Raphael, but a life time to paint like a child." - Pablo Picasso

Pencils, Paints & Plasticine Artists

Brian Chiasson

Do you have a child, between 3 and 5 years, who shows a high interest in art?

When I was a kid, I drew a picture of an apple on a table and included the 3-D shading. That image shocked one of my friends just because it looked so realistic in his eyes.

If you’re interested, the city of Mississauga offers a program called “Pencils, Paints and Plasticine”.

Mind you, while experimenting with craft materials and art techniques, kids are going to have fun getting really messy. Trying to express your thoughts and emotions, just like life and love, can be a messy experience. If you don’t want to get messy, you’re going to miss out.

Here’s a chance to encourage your kids to communicate with you and gain your appreciation and respect. It’s never too early to enjoy this kind of bonding.

Exuberance, all by itself, is something missing from most of our lives, unless you get fanatical about something like baseball or winning a prize on an Oprah program. Otherwise, most people don’t shout in excitement over anything.

A cheerleader, actually, is an athlete who practices organized routines of tumbling, dance, jumps, cheers, and stunting. They direct spectators, at any event, to cheer their teams in competitions.

Cheerleading offers more than pompoms, costumes, and stunts. It also prepares for team spirit, practice, discipline, and exuberance.

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Additionally, cheerleading is a sport with 100,000 participants and competitions, broadcast by ESPN International, and featured in the film “Bring it On”.

Countries that encourage cheerleading include Australia, Canada, China, Colombia, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

Funnily enough, cheerleading started as an all-male activity, although they probably didn’t appear in skirts back then — unless they were Scottish.

In Mississauga, a one-week camp is providing pre-teens and early-teens (10 years to 14 years) a chance to learn formations, cheers, stunts and chants.

In the afternoons, campers invest their efforts into a variety of games and activities to work on strength, stretching, and fitness, along with a recreational swim on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Glenforest Pool.

"You know you’re a cheerleader when you have to yell, kick, and scream to get what you want.” - Unknown

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