

There are many ways to enjoy a book. When reading with your child notice what interests him or her. How you use your new book is up to you and your child.

For example:

- Your child may be more interested in talking about what she sees in the illustrations than reading the story.
- You can read a little bit of the book at a time rather than all at once.
- Remember sometimes requests for book time are a desire for a time to cuddle and be close.

Please stop by the H. F. Johnson Museum of Art and explore both the permanent collection and our special exhibitions. We have family fun activities every month. A complete list of events and programs is available at: museum.cornell.edu.



Other Books for Exploring Art

Museum Shapes
by The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni

Mouse Paint and Mouse Shapes by Ellen Stoll Walsh

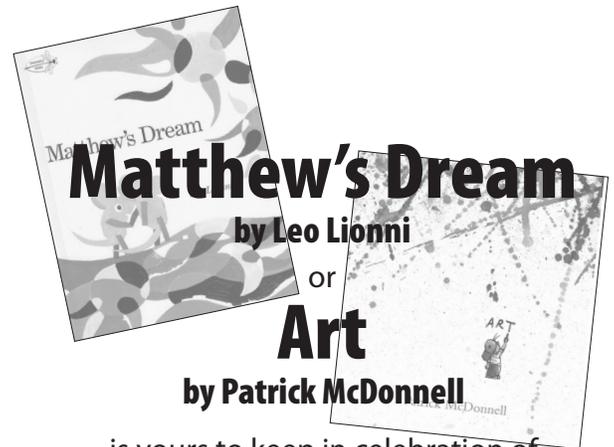
When a Line Bends... A Shape Begins
by Rhonda Gowler Greene

Pattern Fish and Pattern Bugs by Trudy Harris



Herbert F. Johnson
Museum of Art
Central and University Aves.
Ithaca, NY 14853
(607) 255-6464
museum.cornell.edu
For more information email:
museum@cornell.edu

OPEN Tuesday-Sunday: 10am - 5pm • Closed Mondays • ADMISSION FREE



Matthew's Dream
by Leo Lionni
or
Art
by Patrick McDonnell

is yours to keep in celebration of your child's Prekindergarten trip to the Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art at Cornell University as part of *Kids Discover the Trail! Ithaca*



Kids Discover the Trail! Ithaca (KDT! Ithaca)

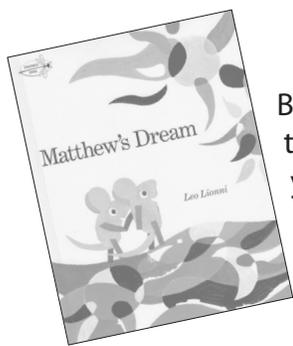
is a collaboration of the

- **Ithaca Public Education Initiative**
- **Discovery Trail**
- **Ithaca City School District**

to provide curriculum-based field trips to the eight sites of the Discovery Trail for Ithaca City School District students grades pre-K through 5.

For more on KDT! visit: www.kidsdiscoverthetrail.org
www.ipei.org
www.discoverytrail.com

Dear grown-up and child art appreciators,
Your child recently took a field trip to the Johnson Museum of Art and you are receiving either the book *Matthew's Dream* or *Art*. Notice there is a label inside where your child can write his or her name! As you read together, your child will learn how to observe art and see it in many different ways.
Have fun! Carol Hockett, Museum Educator



Book #1: If your child received the book *Matthew's Dream*, you also received a bag of things to use for the Shape Games:

Shape Games

Matthew goes to the museum and sees many shapes in the art. Even the museum is made of shapes. You can play shape games with your child.

Cutting



Cut out the shapes on the colored paper. (Some children may want to do this themselves, but others may prefer to have you do it. Either is fine!)

Exploring

Let your child explore some different designs s/he can make with the shapes. Use the piece of plain colored paper as a background.



Designing

Sometimes children make things and we glue them down. When we do not glue the pieces down, your child can take the design apart and explore making a new one over and over again. Encourage your child to make different designs.



Creating

Some children will want to make abstract designs. Others will want to make a "thing," such as a body. Either is ok. Follow your child's lead.

Making More



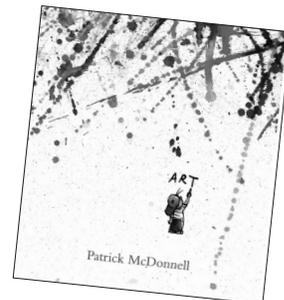
If you have some old paper in your house (newspaper, magazine, paper bag, etc.) you and your child can cut out some more shapes. They can be regular like a triangle or any shape you can imagine. Make these shapes into designs!

Sticking

If your child makes a design that he or she really wants you to glue or tape down. That's ok, too!



Book #2: If your child received the book *Art*, you may want to try these activities together:



A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

Find the page in the book *Art*, that says "A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words" in a picture frame. Ask your child what she thinks that might mean, then turn the page and look at the picture together. Can your child, or you and your child together, tell a story about what is happening in the picture?

Your child can also draw her own picture and then tell you a story about her artwork.

Art on Display

In the book, Art's mom hangs his artwork on the refrigerator for everyone to see. Ask your child where he would like to hang his artwork and help him put some of the artwork there.

New Words

Art has many wonderful vocabulary words for your child to learn. As you read this book together, make special note of all the words that can be used when making art—words like "doodle, zigs, zags, splotches, blotches, and curliest cue."