

Stages of Children's Art

When children are compared all around the world, a researcher, Rhoda Kellogg, found that they all go through similar stages of drawing. They are stimulated to each new level because of discoveries they make about their own drawings, not by observing the world around them. Here are those stages.

1. A child scribbles for the pure fun of it.
2. The child gains enough control to produce shapes that have occurred in random scribbles.
3. Shapes are combined; lines begin to cross, breaking the design into "mandalas."
4. Sun appears as an outgrowth of mandala drawings.
5. The sun acquires some characteristics of a human.
6. The sun begins to evolve into a human.
7. Rays give way to "legs."
8. More body parts appear.
9. The older child delights in adding detail to humans.

