

It's Okay

The 2021 CLEL Bell Award Book for WRITE

by Shioh-Miin Tsai

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Drawing is fun, but not when you make a mistake. Or is it? Join a child and his mother as they learn how to turn imperfections into art. Scribbles are the first step to a lifetime of drawing and writing!

Activity Ideas for *It's Okay*

- The book shows two introductory steps to writing: scribbling and drawing. Art encourages imagination and fine motor skills. It's all about the process, not the product. Turn a scribble into something recognizable. Look at abstract art and then make your own using a variety of materials. Make pictures out of a letter! How can you make an alligator out of the letter A? What else starts with A?
- The little boy is worried about oopses, but mistakes happen! Healthy relationships with adults give children a safe place to talk about their emotions. When children are frustrated, they need a calm hand to guide them through their experiences. The next time your child is upset, take a moment to talk about how they're feeling and name the emotion. It might also help to draw their frustrations or act it out with toys. Draw attention to your own mistakes, too, and talk through how you plan to fix them. The bigger their vocabulary is, the more they'll recognize words on the page.
- Artists, just like in the book, use many colors to set a mood or tone and use images to represent objects and feelings. Music evokes a variety of emotions, too. Gather finger paints, watercolors, markers, etc. and paper. Play different types of music and let it guide your painting style. When you're finished, talk about how you felt as you painted your piece and what it represents.

The CLEL Bell Picture Book Awards are given to books that provide excellent support of early literacy development in young children. For more information and for other activity sheets, visit <http://www.clel.org> and select the CLEL Bell Awards tab.



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