how to talk about with children

Be a Calm Presence

be present pay close attention

Look with Curiosity

see what's there use active observation

Wait for Comments

Give children time to identify their thoughts and feelings & talk spontaneously

Ask Inquiry Questions

Ask open-ended questions to learn more about child

Comment on Art Process

comment specifically on child's use of art materials

Listen & Sumarize

restate the child's exact comments back to them, to show you really listened

Provide Trauma Awareness

Safety: Thank you for trusting me. Connection: I like learning about you. Calm: Let's take 3 deep breaths together.

Listen & Summarize

You made a horse that's playing in the forest, did I hear that right? Now I understand. Thank you for explaining it.

Comment on Art Process

You used blue and yellow.
You spent a lot of time working in this area.
You combined crayons with watercolors.

Ask Inquiry Questions

How did you do that? What's happening here? Where did you get your idea?

