

## DETERMINING CREATIVE PSYCHOLOGICAL TENDENCIES IN CHILDREN THROUGH DRAWING

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**Annotation:** In this article, the stages of identifying creative psychological tendencies in children through drawing, in addition, drawing is a child's mental development, his perception, abilities, thinking and speech development, aspects of manifestation as indicators of his emotional state, pictures drawn by experts analysis of what the child thinks, what he imagines, as well as the issues of understanding stress and depression in children through pictures, current problems of children's social environment in the context of globalization are highlighted.

**Keywords:** pictures, child psychology, psychoanalysis, color properties, children's drawing, projective tests, drawing technique, stress, depression, creativity, ability, perception, imagination, thinking.

### INTRODUCTION

Usually all children like to draw. Drawing is also a child's fantasy. Drawing is a reflection of what children have seen or learned. It is both play and learning. How often we are proud if the drawings are getting better, but we hardly pay attention to what exactly is depicted on the paper and how. But children's drawings reflect the child's inner world, which is why psychologists pay special attention to drawing. Because it is easier for a child to draw something than to express it in words.

Drawing is an intimate story about himself, about how a child perceives himself and his surroundings. In addition, the child's mental development, his perception, abilities, thinking and speech development is an indicator of his emotional state. Therefore, during frequent consultations, a psychologist asks children to draw a certain picture and evaluates it according to certain criteria. As a rule, drawing tests are complementary to other diagnostic methods. It is never a diagnosis by itself. They help to understand how and what the child thinks, what he imagines, what he feels and where the problem situations may be.

*What to pay attention to?* Look carefully at the child's drawing and you will get to know your child better.

What does the child think and dream about?

What is the child afraid of?

How does the child see the world around him?

Children under the age of 3-4 learn only pencils and felt-tip pens. The first drawings, as a rule, are the well-known "cephalopods" - circles with sticks (arms and

legs) and eyes. But the picture of a 5-7-year-old child fully reflects his inner world and perception of the surrounding space.

*In general, pay attention to the child's drawings.*

1. What feelings do they express?
2. What is the general impression?
3. What emotions do you think the child experienced while drawing?
4. Was the child happy, sad, angry, or regretting something? It is better if you look at different pictures, because one picture can be random and talk about a passing situation.

*What can the pictures say?* Psychologists have noticed that some pictures can tell about important things for a child <sup>1</sup>- about his family and family relationships, about himself and how he sees himself in the world. It is clear from this that we can open the door to the world that children see. Family picture. Children often draw their father and mother, grandparents, brothers and sisters. Let's look at the family from a child's perspective: Who is in the family, who does the child draw? Well, even if they grew up with all the family members, some children feel lonely. But sometimes it happens. For example, in response to a request to draw his family, a child draws himself, a cat, and a television.

*How are the family members feeling?* Are they friendly with each other or do they swear, argue and quarrel? The height and size of the people in the pictures is a very interesting indicator. It can also reflect actual growth (for example, dad is taller than mom) or talk about who is in charge in the family.

*How are the numbers arranged on the sheet?* If the whole family is gathered and someone is alone and distant, this may be a picture of the real situation ("dad is on a business trip") and a reflection of the child's perception - "Dad rarely communicates. Especially when we with, I miss him."



<sup>1</sup> Hua, Ne. Fundamentals of psychology in teaching fine arts / Ne Hua. - Text: direct // Young scientist. - 2011. 11 (34).- T.2.-S.180-182-URL:

Draw a girl (boy) who looks like you. It is also interesting to analyze a drawing of a person similar to himself. How does the child feel? What does he dream of, what does he want to be? Pay attention to how the child describes himself, what parts of the body are drawn, and what he wears. How the child places himself in a group of people - if he is smaller than other people or is on the sidelines, this may indicate difficulties in communication. Pay attention to the mood of the little man in the picture.

Kindergarten drawing or classroom drawing. Drawing the situation is a great indirect way to know how your child feels at kindergarten, school, doctor, party and what is happening there. Children can't always tell about it directly, but through the picture you will learn a lot of interesting details. Ask the child where the picture is, how he feels, whether he is happy or sad, and why. What other people in the picture do and say - friends, teachers, teachers.

Do not forget that it can already be dangerous! Sometimes a drawing can be a signal that something is wrong with a child, and it is worth contacting a psychologist or doctor. In no case do we call for diagnosis and draw any conclusions based only on drawings. But we want to pay special attention to some aspects.

Some red flags to pay attention to: Pay attention to how the child draws. If there is too weak pressure on the pencil, blurred lines, and in children older than 5-6 years - the inability to shade the area inside the closed line ("painting" goes beyond the outline circle or does not reach)

*What can be said?* These manifestations may indicate neurological, visual, or musculoskeletal disorders. It is important to consult a pediatrician and a neurologist. If there are images of internal organs in the picture of a person, often depicting the internal organs in detail, then it is worth consulting a psychiatrist. Dismemberment of body parts in the drawing: arms and legs are not attached to the body, body parts seem not to be connected to each other. It seems that the child cannot draw the whole picture of a person. What does this mean? This may indicate personal disorder or mental illness. Consultation with a child psychologist or psychiatrist is recommended.

Stereotypical pictures: the same drawing with the same elements, colors, layout on the sheet is repeated many times. What is this i mean? This can be a sign of psychological disorders - for example, something very important for a child, he cannot experience a certain situation, and he always draws the same thing. We recommend consulting a psychologist.

There are no people or animals in the pictures: the child only draws inanimate objects or abstract pictures. What can be said? It can be both a sign of difficulties in establishing communication and relationships, and a sign of neurological diseases. For example, on the autism spectrum. It is worth consulting a neurologist and a child psychologist.

A strong emphasis on aggression - big teeth on animals, guns on people, images of explosions, suffering people and animals, destroyed buildings. Lots of black and red objects in the drawings. What does this mean? This is a sign that can mean a strong fear in a child, hidden (or open) aggression, violence that he experienced, a situation or news that made a great impression on him. Talk to the child - what he draws and why, what does it mean. How he feels after drawing. What scares or angers him. Be sure to consult a child psychologist.

Injuries in people: sometimes a child's physical pain is reflected in drawings that he is afraid to talk about. Look at the wounds of people or animals in the pictures, pay attention to the place where the patch is drawn. Maybe the baby is injured or something worries him? Ask him about it or check this place with the child.

*Complete refusal to draw.* Usually children easily do what they are given without much difficulty. If for some reason it is difficult to draw, this may be an indicator of hidden problems. What does this mean? Perhaps the child's fine motor skills are underdeveloped and it is difficult for him to draw (this is a question for consultation with a pediatric neurologist). A complete refusal to draw can also be an indicator of psychological problems - the child is afraid to make mistakes, is afraid to express himself or even experienced a traumatic situation and is afraid to show his feelings . In this case, you should contact a child psychologist.

*How to read children's drawings?* In our previous articles, we discussed the idea that the pictures drawn by children are the most important storehouse of information about the child and his feelings, problems, and characteristics. Drawings are sincere and real stories about the life of a child's soul, its well-being or problems, joys and sorrows. What should we pay attention to in order to "read" all this correctly? Traditionally, it is believed that the color scheme of the picture should be evaluated first. In many sources I came across more or less free interpretations, mainly Luscher's research on the connection between "color and character" - that is, the state of the psyche and color preference.

*Of course, color is important.* However, it should be remembered that something like this cannot be said with certainty. When evaluating the color scheme of children's drawings, you should pay attention to the following:

\*Does the child have enough choice of colors to use? (There are cases when a child draws a "gloomy" picture only because there is only one box of pencils for everyone, and it is black or gray.)

\*How often does your child use each color?

\*Does he always choose mostly red, like a pen, or is it a situational choice?

\*What colors does she pair it with?

Thus, according to A. L. Wenger's research, dark brown, gray and black colors that are constantly selected are signs of a depressive state. A lot of red indicates a

current state of anxiety, emotional tension. But if red is a consistently preferred color, it may indicate increased neuroticism or conflict. An abundance of red combined with dark colors is a possible worrying depression.

*What colors dominate the picture - warm or cold?* An abundance of dark blue and purple colors can indicate low mood or simply high sensitivity. The fact that almost all works are performed in "pastel colors" also speaks of sensitivity or anxiety as a personal trait. Does the child use the entire palette, or is his color range generally poor and limited to a few colors? If so, then we can talk about asthenia, fatigue, passivity or even depression. Who is painted in what color? Does the child always choose this color for a certain family member, animal? Compare a series of drawings drawn by the child at different times. Is the questionable color just a recent trend or has it always been like that?

The next important point is the pressure on the pen. This is an indicator of the psychomotor color of the child. If the pressure is weak, light, unclear - this indicates the timidity, passivity, asthenia (mental fatigue) of the baby. If the lines are constantly erased - this is evidence of uncertainty, emotional instability, anxiety. When the strokes are as if sketchy - first with light strokes, then they become more daring. This is an attempt to control your anxiety, to pull yourself away. If the contours of the images are thick, push the paper strongly, this may be evidence of emotional tension, impulsiveness.

Well, if the pencil tears the page, this is a sign of a possible conflict, aggression or just an excited state or hyperactivity. The size of the drawings is also important. Usually, the largest object of the drawing occupies about 2/3 of the A4 sheet. If the drawing of a person or animal is very large, occupies the whole page or even goes beyond it, it means that the child is in a state of anxiety or stress, and such drawings are typical of impulsive and hyperactive children. But a small picture often speaks of low self-esteem or depression. If the size of the drawings is not constant, the child is emotionally unstable.

The location of the drawing on the page will also make you think. The image at the top of the paper indicates high self-esteem (or the tendency to "walk on clouds"), but the small size, together with the place "below", may indicate emotional disturbance. Remember Carlson's "a very lonely rooster" painting? Notice how carefully the image is drawn, how detailed it is. If there are a lot of details, the child may have a vivid imagination, a creative direction (although he may just be demonstrative). However, carefully consider how all these details are: if they are of the same type and there are a large number of them - this may be evidence of anxiety, strictness, perfectionism.

The pace of the child's work is also important: if the child draws slowly, but diligently, then these are the characteristics of his temperament, but slow and sluggish, lack of interest in drawing is a sign of passivity, exhaustion of the nervous system. This

is a depressive state. A high rate indicates that we are actively alive. If at the same time the picture is sweeping and careless, the child is most likely hyperactive (or has a negative attitude and seeks to "get rid" of you as soon as possible and do everything quickly and somehow).

Advice will be the words of the child during work. If the child shares his thoughts in the process of creating the plot, talks about what he likes to draw, he is in a positive mood and, perhaps, psychologically well. Well, if the request to draw something is usually received "with hostility" or is accompanied by cries like "boring", "tired" - this is cowardice, fatigue, negativism, incompetence in communication and a desire to escape can be explained by from difficulties. I would like to warn against making hasty conclusions about the child's condition based on one sign: if you see "signs" of anxiety or depression in several elements at the same time, and even more so if you draw something in different drawings possible conclusions. However, even in this case, the situation should be taken in the general context: for example, if a drawn creature is carefully shaded, it can certainly be a sign of anxiety and uncertainty. But this can also be evidence that the child is studying at an art school, where he has already learned "how to draw correctly", that is, to convey shading and volume with hatching.

In the picture, the plot and the general impression are very important. Of course, the impression is a delicate matter: for example, the picture offends the mother with something, but the father is completely satisfied. However, there are such pictures that leave a painful impression on any viewer: scenes of violence, wounds, blood, antisocial plots, aggressive, "armed with all their powers" characters or creatures created with completely disproportionate, gross distortions. All this is a sign of trouble, according to J. Dileo and A. L. Wenger, well-known masters of the study of children's drawings. However, I repeat - the real state of the characters and works should be evaluated only after a careful analysis of many factors. For this purpose, there are special projective tests - the so-called "picture technique" tests, with the help of which child psychologists together with psychoanalysts can form an image of the child's condition. They will be discussed in the following articles.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it is worth noting that the pictures drawn by children are mostly children's feelings and problems, the most important information about their characteristics is distinguished by relevance. It is known that drawing is considered sincere and true stories about the inner world of a child's heart, joys and sorrows, and what we need to pay attention to in order to "read" them all correctly, first of all, evaluate the color scheme of the picture they believe that Luscher's research on the connection between "color and character" - that is, the state of the psyche and the color preference are shown as the most important aspects of the degree of adaptation of children to the social environment.

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