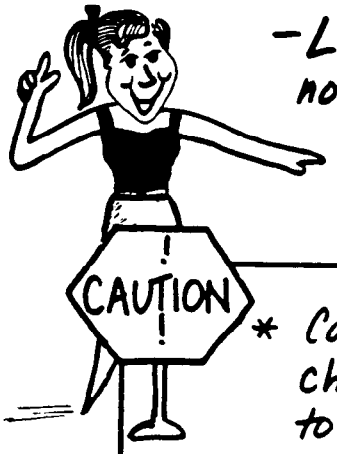
* Sometimes, a child's artwork may be especially expressive of his/her feelings.

* A drawing can give "clues" to some deeper problems/issues/feelings within the child.

* Try to "read" the picture in the same way you might read words. What might it be telling you?

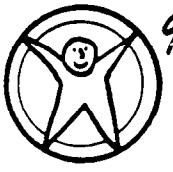


- Look at it as a piece of <u>communication</u>, not just fantasy.

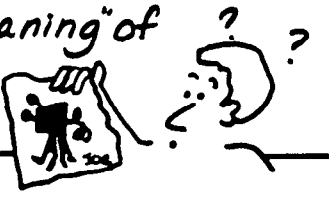
<u>BUT</u>, <u>KEEP IN MIND:</u>

* Colors, forms, etc. have different meanings to children of various cultural backgrounds, and to different children <u>within</u> each culture!

* Regard the artwork as just a <u>piece</u> of what's going on with a child; be sure to look at the child with a holistic view instead!
  - The best source for what's going on behind the drawing, is the child....
    ASK HIM/HER!



* Call on a specialist when you feel it is necessary to explore the "meaning" of the art at a deeper level.



IN BOTH METHODS, YOU MIGHT NOTICE A CHILD EXHIBITING MORE SERIOUS PROBLEMS. HOW DO YOU IDENTIFY THOSE CHILDREN TO A COUNSELOR, OR OTHER PROFESSIONALS AT SCHOOL?