

1116-K5-2302 **Spring Cooke*** (sicooke@northpark.edu). *Children are Mathematicians: Seeing Math in the Art Children Create*. Preliminary report.

Mathematical inquiry is one of the natural expressions of childhood curiosity. Engaging children in mathematical inquiry is both possible and probable when the environment encourages it, when followed by appropriate mathematical questioning and dialog and when rewarded with appropriate, critical feedback. In this exploration, children will be invited to create art using a variety of media. Each piece will be carefully considered for evidence of mathematical thinking and, when appropriate, children will be invited to inquire into their own mathematical representations through questioning and dialog. The goal of this project is to encourage teachers, educators and others who work with school-aged children, to engage them in open-ended art experiences and to use those experiences as opportunities for mathematical dialog and inquiry. Children will be invited to participate from a variety of backgrounds and lived experiences. Ultimately, this project will show that all children can and should be engaged in mathematical inquiry and their own creative work provides regular opportunity for it. (Received September 22, 2015)