

# Art Awareness

Importance of the Playing & Imagination



Play builds the imagination. It is a cornerstone of a young child's life. toddlers begin demonstrating this behavior around the age of 2. Almost anything can spur your child's mind into this mode because he/she uses them as symbols. Learning one thing can stand for other things. Using "Pretend" he can transform a bathtub into a schooner, a pillow into a cloud.

According to Patty Wipfler, founder and director of the Parent's Leadership Institute in Palo Alto, CA, "Everyday objects aren't the only things that transform in your child's make believe world. So do the roles he assumes in his play. He'll move from superhero to Daddy to police officer with great fluidity. By experimenting with diverse jobs and identities, he's able to explore a variety of scenarios and outcomes...."

Imaginative play gives your child a sense of control as he interprets the dramas of everyday life and practices the rules of social behavior."

Truly, we need to understand as adults the benefit and need of play from the growth of the child's point of view. Play with, don't play down to.



## Art News...

**High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA**  
**Henri Cartier-Bresson Exhibition**

**Feb 19<sup>th</sup>- May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
 Henri Cartier-Bresson's photographs captured people and events that changed the world. This is the first comprehensive retrospective of the French photographer's work since his death in 2004, and spans more than thirty years of his career.  
[www.high.org](http://www.high.org)

## American Museum of Science and Energy – Tennessee

"Cold War Crisis: The U-2 Incident" — The story of Francis Gary Powers through Sept. 11.  
 American Museum of Science and Energy, Lobby, 300 S. Tulane Ave., Oak Ridge.  
 Info: <http://www.amse.org> or 865-576-3200.

**Georgia Renaissance Festival**  
**April 16 - June 5, 2011 - 6655 Virlyn B Smith Rd - near the Atlanta Airport**  
 Enter through the *'castle gates'*... and spend the entire day in *merry old England*. Shop the 15-acre **Artists Marketplace** featuring *thousands* of **Handcrafted Wares**. With Atlanta's mild **Spring Days**... it's the *perfect time* to spend an entire weekend filled with merrymaking, feasting and shopping.  
**Georgia Renaissance Festival** hours are: 10:30 AM - 6 PM Saturdays & Sundays, including Memorial Day.



# GIRAFSpots

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## Editor's Notes

Summer is around the corner as our kids will constantly remind us. The goal here is to help them get ready for a great summer by finishing out the school year strong. Don't get me wrong kids. Play is vital to the very development of imagination and creativity. Don't forget though that you have to complete your school education through May.

Education may not be as fun for some as say a picnic in the park, or a family movie day out, but you will always have the opportunity to learn if you pay attention to the world around you. That is why "playing" is truly a necessity to everyone's development into adulthood. Many adults have a tendency to forget that as kids they loved to play. Sometimes we need reminding too.

## Credits

Welcome to GIRAFSpots, the link between you, the artist, and the non profit world. We've prepared this newsletter to give you a practical, accessible, and straight account of what's happening in the art world now!

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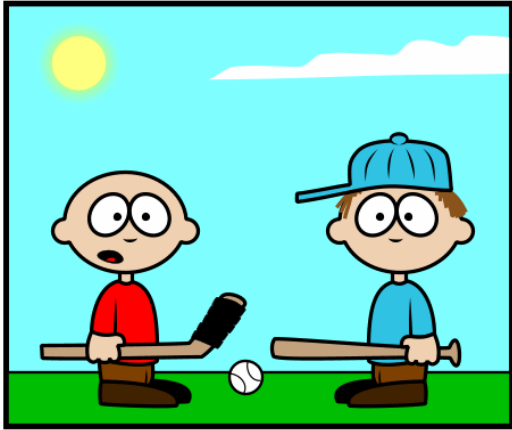
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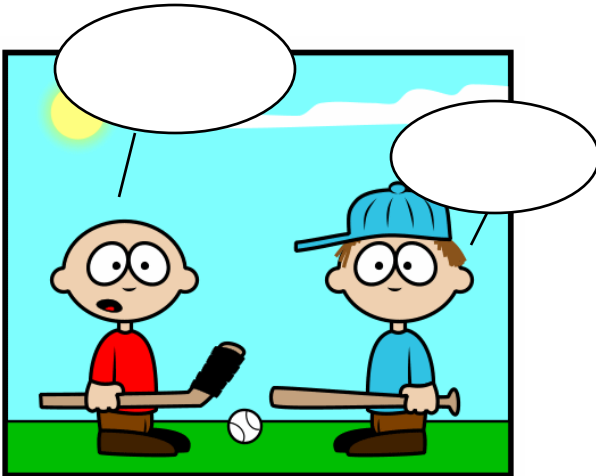
We are a 501 (C) 3 Charitable non-profit organization in GA under Federal Tax Exemption.

# Activity 10-

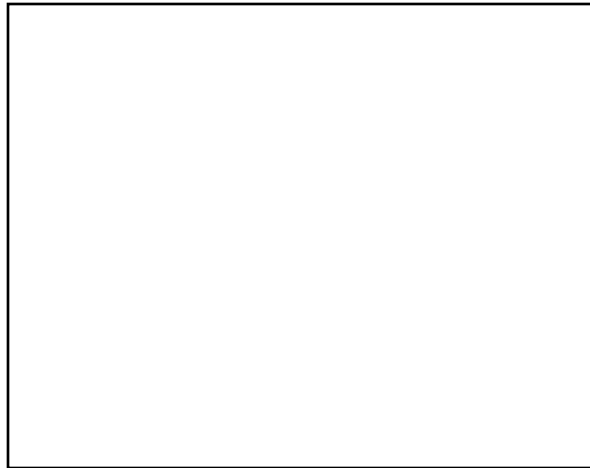
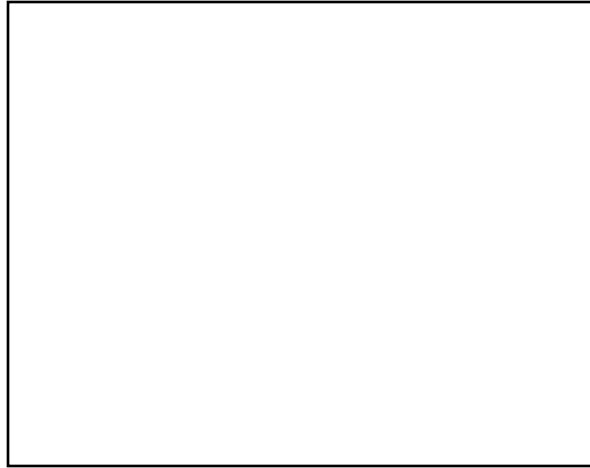
Practice drawing the comic panel  
Next to the real one here.



In the meantime, have fun by  
adding your own joke to the  
word balloons between the  
two boys.



Practice Drawing the  
shapes, angles, and the  
perspectives in this case  
of .... Funny Comic !



Stick Art – JB 2011  
“ Tribute to Fun “

