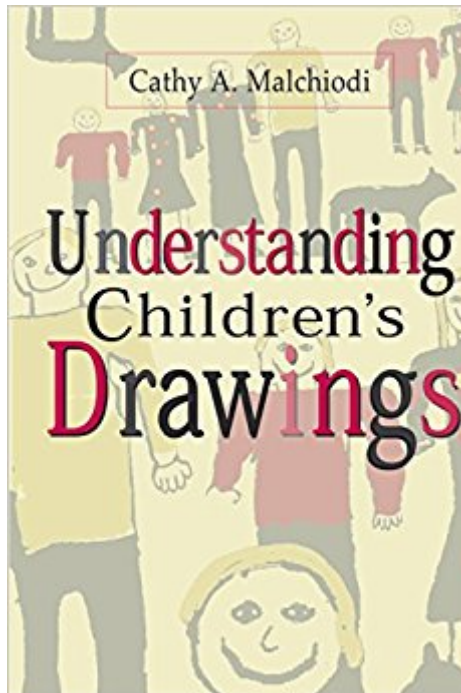




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Understanding Children's Drawings



Synopsis

This practical resource demonstrates how all clinicians can broaden and enhance their work with children by integrating drawing into therapy. The book enables therapists to address the multidimensional aspects of children's art without resorting to simplistic explanations. Approaching drawing as a springboard for communication and change, Malchiodi offers a wealth of guidelines for understanding the intricate messages embedded in children's drawings and in the art-making process itself. Topics covered include how to assist children in making art, what questions to ask and when, and how to motivate children who are initially resistant to drawing. Assimilating extensive research and clinical experience, the book includes over 100 examples of children's work.

Book Information

Paperback: 252 pages

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Customer Reviews

"This carefully crafted and sensitive book will undoubtedly become a standard text for all clinicians who work with children. A comprehensive range of timely issues is covered with a balanced, caring tone that only a highly respected and experienced teacher and therapist could produce. Malchiodi ably demonstrates the benefits of graphic expression for the assessment process and the therapeutic hour. Literature reviews and exquisitely presented case examples and illustrations provide an exciting platform for classroom discussion. This clearly written, state-of-the-art book is a welcome contribution to the child mental health field." --Gerald D. Oster, PhD, Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry, University of Maryland Medical School; coauthor of *Clinical Uses of Drawings*

"This multidimensional approach to understanding children's drawings is rich in research, insight, and applications that will be of immense help to those working with traumatized children."

--William Steele, MS, MSW, Director, Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children "A wide variety of therapists who work with children, including myself, stock our therapy rooms with toys, art materials, sandtrays, and miniatures. It seems to me that when we do so we invite our child clients to engage with these materials. This invitation is an awesome opportunity to facilitate, enhance, and promote the child's therapy. Yet clinicians may not take full advantage of what they can learn from children's art....This book will greatly enhance your understanding." --From the Foreword by Eliana Gil, PhD, Starbright Training Institute for Child and Family Play Therapy, Rockville, MD "Where children are concerned, art happens! Now, at long last, we have a clearly stated, commonsense guide to using art in therapy that will prove invaluable to all clinicians who see children in their practice. This book is refreshingly comprehensive, including state-of-the-art thinking on developmental, interpersonal, gender, somatic, spiritual, and ethical aspects of children's drawings. Richly illustrated and sensitively written with a child's best interests in mind, *Understanding Children's Drawings* is destined to become a classic." --Carol Thayer Cox, Assistant Director, Art Therapy Program of George Washington University, coauthor of *Telling Without Talking: Art as a Window into the World of Multiple Personality* "Malchiodi writes in a clear, easy-to-comprehend style. She avoids the pitfalls of many other 'basic' texts that fail to address fundamental concepts or get bogged down in too much detail. Her book is also well referenced for any reader who wishes to pursue any of the material further....I believe most child and adolescent psychiatrists and psychiatric residents would benefit from reading this book, whether to use art therapy themselves or to learn about another treatment modality at our disposal in the effort to prevent, diagnose, and treat mental illness." (Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry)

Where children are concerned, art happens! Now, at long last, we have a clearly stated, common sense guide to using art in therapy that will prove invaluable to all clinicians who see children in their practice. This book is refreshingly comprehensive, including state-of-the-art thinking on developmental, interpersonal, gender, somatic, spiritual, and ethical aspects of children's drawings. Richly illustrated and sensitively written with a child's best interests in mind, *Understanding Children's Drawings* is destined to become a classic. (Carol Thayer Cox, MA, ATR, LPAT, George Washington University)

I found this book to be very helpful in understanding the symbolism of children's drawings. I am working on a PhD, with a focus on place attachment and children, and found loads of very useful information in this book for interpreting children's drawings about their homes, communities, etc. I

am in the process of reading several books about children's drawings and how to interpret, but have found this one to be one of the most useful to date.

Very useful book.

Great to use in working with children with special needs!

I confess that this book is a disappointment to me. I was so excited to get it and have the chance to read it, but it wasn't what I expected. Rather than being filled with children's drawings, as one might expect, it is primarily filled with writing. It seems that more could have been said with less and illustrated better for those of us who are visual learners. Will I learn from what is here? Yes. But with more illustrations, I think I could have learned more.

Good book

Very good for a general overview of understanding the use of art as yet another tool when working with children. I had the impression after reading the book that there is no hard fast rule and everything should be taken with the consideration of the larger picture. Very helpful.

perfect condition

I've used this book a lot in my private practice and find it to be a excellent resource in my art therapy library.

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