

CAREGIVER CONNECTION CARD

Young Audiences of Louisiana's   
**ARTSPRAY!™**  
 Presented by The Helis Foundation

**Mama, Don't Cry**

Emotional Development

Your tiny explorers are facing new adventures and now they can tell you how they are feeling about each one. Parents, you can help increase vocalization of emotions and expand vocabulary of emotions by using specific language to identify and label your own emotions. Engage children in song to help explore concepts of emotion objectively and they will sharpen their receptive language skills, allowing them to better understand the emotions of others.

**Tips to Connect**

Mirror emotional expressions. For example, if your toddler is crying, you can offer a frown while saying, "You seem so upset. Do you need a hug?"



**MAIN PROP**

Emotions shapes

**ALTERNATIVE PROP**

Create your own emotion puppets with a popsicle sticks and smiley, angry, happy, and sad faces.

**Mama Don't Cry**

*Adaptation of a traditional second line chant*

It's my first day of school, imma be alright  
 Mama, don't cry

I just learned how to ride my bike  
 Mama, go wild

It's my first baby arts class, imma be well  
 Mama, please smile

Imma big kid and you taught me well  
 Mama, stand tall