

Expressive Arts and Design

Children have the opportunity to be creative and practitioners encourage attitudes of curiosity. The children notice everything and closely observe the most ordinary things that adults often take for granted. We build on children's interests and this leads to them creating amazing inventions or making marks on paper that represent for them an experience or something they have seen. The children are encouraged to choose and use materials and resources in an open-ended way to help them to make choices and to have confidence in their own ideas.

Expressive arts and design is one of the four specific areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and is broken down into two aspects:



Exploring and Using Media and Materials

This is about how children explore, play and experiment with media and materials and finding out about their properties and modifying and manipulating them. Staff play alongside the children helping them to share their thoughts and ideas. The children will be exploring sounds, patterns, movement and different tools and techniques.



Children's learning and development in this area is enhanced as they sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with different ways of doing these activities. As they develop, they will use and explore a variety of materials, experimenting with colour, design, texture, shape, and form.

Being Imaginative

This is about children's explorations into the world of pretense, building on their experiences of the real world and transforming them into something new – whether through role play, music, pretend play, block play or small world play or a range of other areas.

