

Expressive Arts and Design



Key areas:

- Exploring and using media and materials
- Being imaginative

This area of learning:

- inspires your child to explore colour and colour changes
- helps your child to explore shape and texture
- encourages your child to explore using all of his/her senses
- will develop an interest in music, singing and music-making
- helps your child to two- and three-dimensional shapes
- encourages your child to express him/herself and communicate his/her ideas in many ways: art, design, dance, drama, imaginative play, music and movement
- develops your child's confidence in representing his/her ideas in his/her own way
- supports the understanding of different methods of joining things together
- will develop your child's ability to use a range of tools and techniques
- extends your child's vocabulary by introducing new words linked to creative activities, such as 'high' and 'low' pitch, when playing music.

You can help your child by:

- providing opportunities for your child to plan and make objects to his own design
- creating opportunities for your child to plan and make objects for a purpose
- making resources available to your child for practising skills such as cutting, painting, using brushes, spatulas and other tools
- allowing him/her to make choices of which colours, materials and tools he/she uses
- encouraging him/her to explain how something makes him/her feel
- encouraging him/her to plan, try out, modify and evaluate his/her own 'creations'
- encouraging him/her to mix paints and combine colours.



Things to try at home:

- enjoy art and craft activities such as collage, finger-painting, printing, painting, drawing and junk modelling
- share stories and role-play situations together
- play with musical instruments
- have fun singing and dancing.