



Early Years Overview of skills and Knowledge

Nursery

2026-2027

Art and Design in Early Years is taught through Expressive Arts and Design in continuous provision through weekly topics. We offer parent workshops including art activities, the parents have a talk with the EY leader and receive a pack to support their child's learning at home. Children are given Home learning projects:

Make a paper plate face Uses 3D and 2D structures to explore materials and/or to express ideas. Manipulates a range of tool, and equipment in one hand (paintbrushes, scissors etc...)	Make a quilt Uses 3D and 2D structures to explore materials and/or to express ideas. Manipulates a range of tool, and equipment in one hand (paintbrushes, scissors etc...)	Paint/ draw family Enjoys and responds to playing with colour in a variety of ways, for example combing colours Continues to explore colour and how colours can be changed.	Make a paper bag character Uses 3D and 2D structures to explore materials and/or to express ideas. Manipulates a range of tool, and equipment in one hand (paintbrushes, scissors etc...)
Continuous provision: Expressive Arts and Design Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details. Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises. Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness and fear. Create closed shapes with continuous lines and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. Explore colour and colour-mixing Develop their own ideas and decide which materials to use to express them. Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Join different materials and explore different textures. Physical Development - Fine Motor Skills. Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils			

Using sketch books			
Develops an understanding of using lines to enclose a space and begins to use drawing to represent actions and objects based on imagination, observation and experience Enjoys drawing and writing on paper Makes up drawings in response to experiences (L-W) Creates lines and circles pivoting from the shoulder and elbow (PD M&H) KS1- Drawing	Autumn term assessment	In my art sketch book I can create a drawing of myself.	
Develops an understanding of using lines to enclose a space and begins to use drawing to represent actions and objects based on imagination, observation and experience Enjoys drawing and writing on paper Makes up drawings in response to experiences (L-W) Creates lines and circles pivoting from the shoulder and elbow (PD M&H) KS1- Drawing	Spring term art assessment	In my art sketch book I can create a drawing a teddy bear.	
Develops an understanding of using lines to enclose a space and begins to use drawing to represent actions and objects based on imagination, observation and experience Enjoys drawing and writing on paper Makes up drawings in response to experiences (L-W) Creates lines and circles pivoting from the shoulder and elbow (PD M&H) KS1- Drawing	Summer term art assessment	In my art sketch book I can create a drawing of me and my friends, I can colour my picture using colouring pencils/ felt tips.	

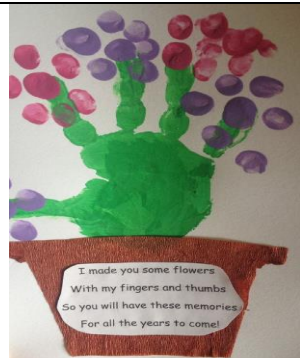
Creating Cards

Enjoys and responds to playing with colour in a variety of ways, for example combining colours Uses 3D and 2D structures to explore materials and/or to express ideas. Shows increasing control in holding using and manipulating a range of tools. Continues to explore colour and how colours can be changed. KS1 -Paint	Christmas cards	Know why people give Christmas cards Christmas, card, wishes, celebrate, tradition, faith, religion, belief Know how to make finger printing technique to decorate the card	I can create a Christmas card.		Christmas, card, write, give, design, love, cut, glue, finger printing, paint, reindeer, antlers, brown, red, googly eyes, Rudolph, Dasher, Prancer, Blitzen, Vixen Cupid, Comet, Doner, Dancer, collage, tissue, colour, cotton wool, mitten, shape,
Uses 3D and 2D structures to explore materials and/or to express ideas. Continues to explore colour and how colours can be changed. Manipulates a range of tool, and equipment in one hand (paintbrushes, scissors etc....) KS1- Collage	Valentines Day	Know why people celebrate Valentine's day. Valentines, love, family, friends, together, caring, smile, emotions, feelings. To use scissors to cut pieces of paper and stick them onto the heart shape To name different colours red, pink, purple,	I can create a Valentine's Day card		Heart, feelings, family, friends, Mom, mum, dad, uncle, aunt, granddad, grandma,

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Nursery

2026-2027

Uses 3D and 2D structures to explore materials and/or to Enjoys and responds to playing with colour in a variety of ways, for example combining colours Uses 3D and 2D structures to explore materials and/or to express ideas. Shows increasing control in holding using and manipulating a range of tools. Continues to explore colour and how colours can be changed. KS1 -Paint and Print	Mother's day	Know why mother's day is celebrated To say thank you to our mums To explore finger printing To select colours Yellow, blue	I can create a mothers day card.		Mothers day, Mom, mum, ma, mother, love, Cut, join, glue, fix, colours, red, yellow, pink, green, purple, orange, blue
Enjoys and responds to playing with colour in a variety of ways, for example combining colours Uses 3D and 2D structures to explore materials and/or to express ideas. Shows increasing control in holding using and manipulating a range of tools. Continues to explore colour and how colours can be changed. KS1 -Paint and Print	Easter	Know why Easter is celebrated To use paint to create patterns on an Easter egg.	I can create a footprint Easter card.		Easter, Jesus, bunny, rabbit, white, feet, paint, print, draw, pattern
Enjoys and responds to playing with colour in a variety of ways, for example combining colours Uses 3D and 2D structures to explore materials and/or to express ideas. Shows increasing control in holding using and manipulating a range of tools. Continues to explore colour and how colours can be changed. KS1 -Paint	Father's day cards	Know why Fathers day is celebrated To say thank you to our dads To explore finger printing To select colours	I can create a father's day card.		Dad, father, papa, thankful, love, fathers day, Paint, print, patterns, colours, blue, yellow,



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	Range: EYFS 3-4 year olds EAD - Using Media and Materials PD - Fine Motor Skills				
	EYFS objectives	Topic / question	Knowledge	LO	Vocabulary

Art and Design	Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises. Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness and fear. Explore colour and colour-mixing Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details. Create closed shapes with continuous lines and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors	All about me	Know and name different facial features Know and name different colours To talk about emotions and how I express them in my artwork	I can select the appropriate materials to decorate a person  I can design my house using shapes 	Self portrait, paint, colours, pink, peach, brown, white, skin, head, hair, brown, blonde, yellow, black, orange, ginger, eyes, brown, blue, green, nose, mouth, ears, mirror, long, short, mix, shade, shape, oval, round, happy, sad,
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Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Join different materials and explore different textures.	Owl babies - family	Know characters from a story Know owls have feathers Know I can print on paper with paint	I can use printing to make an owl picture 	paint, colours, owl, babies, family, sponge, print
Explore colour and colour-mixing	Colours	Sing the Rainbow song Name the colours in the rainbow Select the correct colours in order Know colours are in different shades	I can use a paintbrush accurately to paint the colours of the rainbow with my hand. 	rainbow, colours, red, yellow, pink, green, orange, purple, blue, indigo, violet, shades, light, dark, black, white, curve
Explore colour and colour-mixing	Colours	Name different colours Name objects which are the same colour	I can sort objects according to their colour. 	colours, shades, blue, light blue, dark blue, purple, indigo, silver, grey, orange, yellow, pink, brown, black, red, green, gold, bronze, sort, describe,

Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Join different materials and explore different textures. Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors	Halloween	Know when and why people celebrate Halloween Know how people celebrate Halloween	I can create a witches cauldron and/or a spider web craft 	Halloween, 31st October, costumes, witch, cauldron, wizard, spider, rat, frog, skeleton, mummy, bandage, tissues, masking tape, wrap, bend, secure, pumpkin, carve, spooky, party, trick or treating, scissors
Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Join different materials and explore different textures. Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors	Halloween	Know when and why people celebrate Halloween Know how people celebrate Halloween Know that some people dress up	I can create a skeleton/mummy craft using paint and marbles 	Halloween, 31st October, costumes, witch, cauldron, wizard, spider, rat, frog, skeleton, mummy, bandage, tissues, masking tape, wrap, bend, secure, pumpkin, carve, spooky, party, trick or treating, scissors

Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details. Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises. Create closed shapes with continuous lines and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils	Bonfire night	Know and name different patterns- circles, swirls, straight lines Know why fireworks are at night time	I can look at pictures of fireworks to create my own picture. I can use paint, blowing and a straw to create fireworks. 	Fireworks, patterns, different, similar, shapes, swirls, circles, round, lines, straight, vertical, horizontal, diagonal, big, small, long, wavy lines, zig zags,
Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Join different materials and explore different textures.	Harvest	Explore hand painting and printing Explore colour mixing	I can mix paint in my hands and use it to paint feathers on my hen 	Harvest, hen, feathers, mix, paint, predict, colour, orange, yellow, red



Early Years Overview of skills and Knowledge

Nursery

2026-2027

Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors	Winter	Explore with glue and salt. Know that you have to spread glue and that things stick to it. Explore water colour paint	I can use a spreader to follow the snowflake pattern with glue. I can sprinkle salt following the outline. I can paint my  snowflake	Winter, cold, ice, snow, melt, freeze, salt, glue, paint, spread
Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Explore colour and colour-mixing	Christmas	Know why people give Christmas cards Know how to use scissors accurately Know and name the Christmas reindeers from the Christmas Story	I can create a Santa Christmas card. 	Christmas, card, write, give, design, love, cut, glue, finger printing, paint, reindeer, antlers, brown, red, googly eyes, Santa, collage, tissue, colour, cotton wool, mitten, shape,

Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Explore colour and colour-mixing	Christmas	Know why people use a calendar Know calendars are in months Name the 12 months of the year Know there are 4 different seasons	I can create a Seasons calendar. 	Calendar, months, seasons, remember, dates, days, weekends, 12 months, January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December, Autumn, Spring, Summer, Winter, 4 seasons,
Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make.	Arctic	Know that polar bears have fur to keep them warm.	I can rip cotton wool and stick it to create a fluffy polar bear. 	Fur, cold, warm, white, polar bear, fish, ice, swim, catch, paws, animal, sea, arctic
Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Develop their own ideas and decide which materials to use to express them.	Chinese New Year	Know traditions on Chinese New year. Know that red money envelopes are given for good luck.	I can create my own red money envelope 	Chinese New Year, envelope, money, good luck, red, paint, Chinese symbols, love, money, hope, wealth.



Early Years Overview of skills and Knowledge

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Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Explore colour and colour-mixing	Spring and growing fruit	Know that fruits and veg grow from seeds Explore different textures to create art	I can use paint and fruit/veg to create a picture using stamping, printing and rolling.	Fruit, vegetables, seeds, growing, harvest, squish, mix, cut, chop



Early Years Overview of skills and Knowledge

Nursery

2026-2027

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Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Explore colour and colour-mixing Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors	People who help us- police	Know what police do Know what police use I can name some features of a police car	I can make a paper plate police car	Police, car, siren, help, officer, uniform, equipment, wheels, yellow, blue, fast



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Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Explore colour and colour-mixing	Farm animals	Know features of a cow Know a baby sheep is called a calf Know that it allows milk, cheese, Sing the cow song	I can create a paper plate farm animal	Cow, black, white, milk, cheese Sheep, wool, hen, eggs,



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Expressive Arts and Design Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details. Create closed shapes with continuous lines and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. Develop their own ideas and decide which materials to use to express them. Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Join different materials and explore different textures. Physical Development - Fine Motor Skills. Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors	Easter	Know that Easter represents new life and that chicks are often used here. Know how to select media, materials and colours appropriately.	I can use one-handed tools with control. I can decorate and make an Easter card	Easter, chick, happy, new life, egg, collage, decorate, split-pin.
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Early Years Overview of skills and Knowledge

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2026-2027

Develop their own ideas and decide which materials to use to express them. Use one-handed tools and equipment,	Superheroes	Know about superheroes and their costumes. Know how to use different materials	I can choose colours for my cape I can use spray bottle to create my  cape picture	Superheroes, supertato, cape, belt, mask, stick, paper, pens, spray, mix
Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Develop their own ideas and decide which materials to use to express them.	Space	Know about planets, space and the galaxy, Manipulate materials for cause and effect	I can use foil and sponge to create a planet picture	, space, explore, planets. Create, work together, , , foil, sponge



Early Years Overview of skills and Knowledge

Nursery

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Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Develop their own ideas and decide which materials to use to express them.	Space	Know about rockets and what they are used for. Know how to explore different materials and manipulate them to create something new. Know my name and some letters	I can use shapes to create a rocket using letters of my name.	Rocket, space, explore, planets. Create, work together, teamwork, sharing, foil, window,
Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Develop their own ideas and decide which materials to use to express them Use one-handed tools and equipment	Castles and giants	Know that stories with giants often have castles. Know that paint can print onto paper	I can use lego to print a castle onto paper Sand castle?	Lego, paint, castle, print, knights, big, small
Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Develop their own ideas and decide which materials to use to express them Use one-handed tools and equipment Explore symmetry	Minibeasts	Know about different minibeasts Know that a butterfly has patterns the same on both sides	I can use paint and folding to create a symmetrical butterfly painting	Butterfly, paint, symmetry, pattern, colour, wings,



Early Years Overview of skills and Knowledge

Nursery

2026-2027

Explore colour and colour-mixing Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details. Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises. Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness and fear. Create closed shapes with continuous lines and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. Colour mixing	Under the sea	Know the names of different sea creatures Know and name different colours Describe features of different sea creatures Know how sea creatures move Know about a jelly fish	I can use pencils and glue to create a jelly fish I can mix colours and create a rainbow fish collage as a group	sea creatures, ocean, water, colours, different, similar, bright colours, coral reef, sea weed, blue, green, orange, light and dark colours, octopus, shark, jellyfish, crab, dolphin, fish, starfish, whale, sea turtle, puffer fish, lobster, sea lion,
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Nursery

2026-2027

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