



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY IN THE EYFS

“Art has the role in education of helping children become like themselves instead of more like everyone else.”
~ Sydney Gurewitz Clemens



Understanding the world

This involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. The frequency and range of children’s personal experiences increases their knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers, nurses and firefighters. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains. Enriching and widening children’s vocabulary will support later reading comprehension.

Expressive Arts and Design

The development of children’s artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity. It is important that children have regular opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling them to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. The quality and variety of what children see, hear and participate in is crucial for developing their understanding, self-expression, vocabulary and ability to communicate through the arts. The frequency, repetition and depth of their experiences are fundamental to their progress in interpreting and appreciating what they hear, respond to and observe.

	Children will be learning to...	What the learning will look like...
Foundation Stage 1 (Nursery) Age - 3 & 4	<p>Explore how things work.</p> <p>Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make.</p> <p>Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them.</p> <p>Join different materials and explore different textures.</p>	<p>Adults providing mechanical equipment for children to play with and investigate. Suggestions: wind-up toys, pulleys, sets of cogs with pegs and boards.</p> <p>Adults offering opportunities to explore scale. Suggestions: - long strips of wallpaper - child size boxes - different surfaces to work on e.g. paving, floor, tabletop or easel</p> <p>Adults listening and understanding what children want to create before offering suggestions.</p> <p>Adults inviting artists, musicians and craftspeople into the setting, to widen the range of ideas which children can draw on.</p> <p>Suggestions: glue and masking tape for sticking pieces of scrap materials onto old cardboard boxes, hammers and nails, glue guns, paperclips and fasteners.</p>