

‘Drama’

What does it look like in EYFS?

In planning and guiding what children learn, practitioners must reflect on the different rates at which children are developing and adjust their practice appropriately. Three characteristics of effective teaching and learning are:

- playing and exploring - children investigate and experience things, and ‘have a go’
- active learning - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
- creating and thinking critically - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things. In addition, the Prime Areas of Learning (Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development) underpin and are an integral part of the children’s learning in all areas.

Expressive Arts and Design (Statutory)

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.

Birth to 3 -

Start to develop pretend play, pretending that one object represents another. For example, a child holds a wooden block to her ear and pretends it’s a phone.

3-4 year olds -

Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else even though they are not similar. • Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses etc.

Reception -

Watch and talk about dance and performance art, expressing their feelings and responses. Develop storylines in their pretend play.

ELG -

Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher.

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