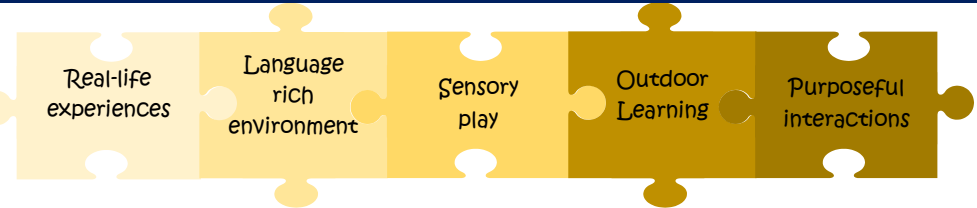


EYFS Curriculum Links



What does Design Technology look like in Early Years?



In EYFS, children are introduced to Design Technology through the 'Expressive Arts and Design' area of learning; specifically, the 'Creating with Materials' Early Learning Goal. They also develop their design skills through the 'Physical Development' area of learning; specifically, the 'Fine Motor Skills' Early Learning Goal. By the end of Reception, children who are at the expected level of development in these areas will:

- Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. (*Creating with Materials*)
- Share their creations, explaining the process they have used. (*Creating with Materials*)
- Make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories. (*Creating with Materials*)
- Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases. (*Fine Motor Skills*)
- Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paint brushes and cutlery. (*Fine Motor Skills*)
- Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing. (*Fine Motor Skills*)

In both Nursery and Reception, children begin to develop an understanding of both strands of design technology:

- *Cooking and Nutrition*
- *Designing and Making*

They will be introduced to cooking and nutrition by exploring, preparing and tasting a range of foods (fruits/vegetables/pasta/rice/different types of bread). Design skills will be explored and developed through construction (using progressive building materials) in the indoor/outdoor environments and through junk modelling. The continuous provision is planned carefully to help children explore and practise skills such as joining and sticking by offering a range of materials and tools with which to work. The curriculum ensures a wide variety of rich opportunities for children to use both fine and gross motor skills thus setting firm foundations, on which to build, as they enter into KS1. As they move into Year 1, children continue to develop their design skills by making 'moving pictures'; simple mechanisms will be introduced and motor skills will be honed while using tools and making simple devices. Fruit smoothies will be created, allowing them to investigate and begin to understand food sources and origins.