

EYFS · PRE-K–Y1

# Expressive Arts & Design

EYFS Knowledge Organiser

## Two sub-areas

1

### Creating with materials

Using art, craft, design, and construction to make things. Using and exploring a variety of materials, tools and techniques.

*Example: By ELG: safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques; share creations, explaining process*

2

### Being imaginative and expressive

Using performance, movement, and imaginative play to express ideas and feelings.

*Example: By ELG: invent, adapt, and recount narratives; sing songs, make music, dance; perform for others*

## Expressive arts experiences

Principles for practitioners

- OPEN-ENDED MATERIALS: offer materials without specifying what to make — boxes, tubes, fabric, clay, wire, natural materials
- PROCESS NOT PRODUCT: value the process of making as much as the outcome. 'Tell me about your painting' not 'what is it?'
- MUSIC DAILY: singing, moving to music, and playing instruments should happen every day — not just in designated music sessions
- ROLE PLAY: changes regularly with children's interests. Provide sufficient props, time, and adult engagement



- PORTFOLIO: collect photographs and children's narrations of their creative process as evidence of this area
- SCHEMA: children exploring schemas (transporting, enclosing, rotating) through art and construction are doing deep cognitive work — do not redirect unless necessary

