



EYFS Design and Technology Overview

Nursery and Reception

Design and Technology looks very different in Early Years compared to the National Curriculum subject. DT is not a separately taught subject but is part of everyday Continuous Provision both indoors and outdoors. The children are taught skills throughout EYFS and given plenty of opportunities to practice and consolidate them in readiness for KS1 and National Curriculum.

The statements of learning that are most relevant to Early Years DT fall under the following areas:

Personal, social and Emotional Development

Physical Development

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Expressive Arts and Design

Statements from ELG statutory framework and Development Matters		
Three and Four Year Olds	Personal, Social Emotional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select and use activities and resources, with help when needed. This helps them to achieve a goal they have chosen or one which is suggested to them.
	Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use large-muscle movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks. Choose the right resources to carry out their own plan. Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors.
	Understanding of the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how things work.
	Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make imaginative and complex 'small worlds' with blocks and construction kits, such as a city with different buildings and a park. Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them. Create closed shapes with continuous lines, and begin to use these shapes to represent objects.



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Reception	Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progress towards a more fluent style of moving, with developing control and grace.• Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently.• Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor.
	Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.• Return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them.• Create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills.

ELG	Physical Development	Fine motor skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paintbrushes and cutlery.
	Expressive Arts and Design	Creating with Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.• Share their creations, explaining the process they have used.

EYFS Outdoor DT

Nursery and Reception have access to large construction crates, cable reels and various other crates and building blocks/kits. These are suitable for building large constructions and for climbing on. These materials need to be moved using two hands and help to develop gross motor skills. The children will use and develop arm and shoulder muscles, this is necessary before developing fine motor finger muscles.

EYFS DT in Continuous Provision

Nursery and Reception have access to smaller construction kits during their everyday learning.

Nursery access these in conjunction with small word play. Reception do this also but have a designated construction area with various kits available and with pictorial ideas of what to make displayed on the window above the area. In both year groups vocabulary is on displayed.



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An example of constriction kits:

Nursery	Reception
Wooden bricks	Mobilo
Interstar	Lego
Mega blocks	Duplo
Duplo	Magnetics
Magnetics	Poly M
Road tracks	Clics
Train sets	Knex

Nursery and Reception also have designated craft areas. Both have relevant vocabulary displayed as well as termly ideas to inspire the children in their making from their current learning.

Across EYFS children are taught to use scissors effectively, use various tapes in dispensers, how to use tools, how to use equipment safely etc. Nursery develop junk modelling in the Summer Term and Reception do this throughout the year. Weekly or daily challenges are also displayed. Nursery may need these to be more specific adult-led activities to develop DT skills in readiness for Reception. Reception encourage children to plan, create, review, adapt and improve their creations in readiness for Designing and Evaluating in Year 1 and National Curriculum objectives.

Children in EYFS enjoy Food Technology from making porridge to firework toast, Pudsey iced biscuits to chocolate Easter nests. The children learn about food hygiene and how to be safe when using tools and equipment.