EYFS - Home/School Learning Opportunities to Promote Expressive Arts and Design



Area of learning: Expressive Arts and Design

Other links - communication and language, understanding the world, maths, PSED

Opportunities/Ideas/Activities: art, including painting, drawing, collage, sculpture; designing and making including junk modelling and construction kits; imaginative play including role play, and music Activities for indoors:

- Make a simple model-Collect as many different types of wrappers and empty packaging/cartons, tubes and boxes make a 3D model fixing the materials together with glue or sellotape. Decorate your model with empty sweet/chocolate /food wrappers; wool/string, etc. Write a sentence about your model, or instructions on how to make it.
- Collect as many different types of bottle tops as you can milk bottle, yoghurt pots, jam jar tops different colours
 and sizes. Find a strong piece of cardboard and create a
 pattern or a picture using the bottle tops. Take a photo and
 send to your teacher.
- Collect items with hole, e.g. cardboard tubes, buttons, dried pasta tubes, beads or as a treat - hula hoops, jelly rings or Cheerio's. Find some string or wool and thread the items to make a snake, a necklace, a worm or make up your own creature. Can you make up a pattern?
- Make a colour shade chart mixing white or black with the colour to make it lighter or darker. Make a colour shade chart or a colour wheel with your favourite colours....this could be the colours of a rainbow.
- Mix paint with different materials to explore and then
 paint a picture shaving foam, or sand. Paint with cotton
 buds on foil, paint on textured wall paper or bubble wrap,

- paint by blowing through straws or add spices /coffee to paint to make a 'smelly' picture.
- Printing find objects (round objects such as tubes, bottle tops,), materials (bubble wrap, wool, scrunched up foil) and pieces of cardboard-different sizes - use the edges to make patterns. N.B small pieces of thick cardboard can be used as a palette for paint which can then be thrown away when finished with.
- Collect props from around the house and make a dressing up box-key, hat, stick, glasses, large boots, scarf. With a sibling or parent play 'let's imagine' pretend to be a different person, using different voices, or make up a story using the objects, e.g. 'Once upon a time there was a little old man who lived on his own in the deep dark forest. On his head he wore a green fluffy hat and on his feet he wore big black boots. In his house he had a magic key.....'can you finish the story or make up your own?
- Using construction toys and small animals/people, make a setting such as a farm, a house, a park, a dinosaur world. Make up and act out a story using the play toys, e.g. 'the day the pig escaped from the farm...' What happened next?
- Find a piece of music or your favourite song...make up a dance/actions and perform it for your family.

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Activities for outdoors:

- Collect lots of boxes of different sizes and a couple of big boxes if possible. Collect other resources and materials such as foil, paper, wrappers, empty plastic cartons/pots, glue stick/sellotape, etc. Think of what the big box could be made into a space rocket, a house or caravan, a car or truck, or even maybe a dinosaur. With help from an adult cut parts of the box if needed to make your model. Decorate with other junk that has been collected and/or paint /pencils /chalks or crayons. Take a photo to send to school.
- Using chalks draw pictures on the floor or walls outside or
 if available rolls of old wallpaper use the end of the chalk,
 the side of the chalk to make patterns and shapes.
- On your daily walk collect leaves /twigs/small stones, (N.B. consider how and where these items can be collected safely). When back at home make a simple collage picture by laying them out flat on a piece of paper / on the grass or on the flags/patio area. What can you create an animal, a scene, a vehicle, you or your family. Make it as small or as big as you can. Take a photo and send to school.

- Using natural materials-twigs, leaves, small stones, shells

 make a small house or den outside for a small toy dinosaur, hedgehog, fairy make sure it is somewhere safe so it can't be squashed or blown away. Make up a story about your outdoor toy house.... 'The dinosaur tea party', 'The dog who was feeling sad....'
- On your walk each day or outside your house make a sound diary - make a list each day of all the sounds you can hear for a few minutes or on your walk - traffic, people, cars, emergency vehicles, birds, water, etc. How many different sounds did you hear in a week? Can you make the sounds you heard? Can your family guess the sound you are making?
- Make a stage outside, find some props or dressing up clothes and act out a favourite story or make up your own performance/show. Make tickets and invite your family to watch the show.

Websites to support some of these activities:

http://www.fieldsintrust.org/Upload/file/bpty2020/Making-Faces.pdf

https://theimaginationtree.com/category/create/

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/bring-the-noise/primary-school-educational-songs-lyrics/z7bqkmn/ - children's song and lyrics https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies and https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies and watch / house crafts and make /what a funny family song /mess free creative ideas for kids

https://eyfsmatters.wordpress.com/2015/04/11/just-imagine/ - ideas to get children to use their imagination Think of a question every day and then imagine what it would be like, e.g. 'what if rain was made of chocolate?' 'what if we could eat a rainbow?'