

Eagley Infant School - Nursery – Year 2 – Art Knowledge Progression

Area of Learning	Nursery (3–4 years)	Reception (4–5 years)	Year 1	Year 2
Drawing	Explore using a variety of mark-making tools (crayons, chalk, pencils). Scribble with purpose.	Begin to draw with more control. Add details to represent objects, people or places.	Experiment with line, shape and pattern. Use drawing to represent observations and ideas.	Use a range of drawing tools. Show control and detail in drawings. Develop shading and texture.
Painting	Explore colour through messy play. Use fingers, brushes, or sponges.	Mix primary colours. Use brushes with some control.	Mix secondary colours. Use a variety of brushes for different effects.	Mix tints and shades. Begin to understand warm/cool colours. Apply techniques like stippling, layering.
Colour and Media	Begin to recognise colours. Explore texture and media (sand, glue, fabric).	Choose appropriate materials for a task. Explore textures and effects.	Identify and use different media. Experiment with combining materials.	Select and combine materials effectively for purpose. Discuss how different media create different effects.
Printing	Make prints with hands, natural objects or blocks.	Experiment with repeated patterns using blocks and tools.	Create simple prints using everyday objects and stamps.	Create more complex patterns using printing techniques. Understand positive and negative space.
Collage and Textiles	Tear, stick and layer materials freely. Use simple tools (scissors with help).	Cut and stick with greater precision. Begin layering materials for effect.	Cut and arrange materials with some purpose. Explore overlapping and pattern in collage.	Use textiles with techniques like weaving or sewing. Make considered choices in layering and textures.
3D and Sculpture	Explore dough, clay or blocks to build. Enjoy sensory experience.	Shape and join malleable materials with intent (clay, recycled materials).	Use construction and modelling materials to build simple 3D forms.	Use tools to shape and decorate clay. Build more complex 3D forms with purpose.
Knowledge of Artists	Look at artwork in books or around them. Talk about what they see and like.	Be introduced to artists (e.g. Van Gogh, Matisse). Express what they notice and feel.	Learn about key artists (e.g. Picasso, Kandinsky). Begin to talk about style and technique.	Study artists in more detail (e.g. Monet, Georgia O’Keeffe). Compare artworks and describe preferences.
Evaluation and Reflection	Begin to talk about their art. Share what they like.	Describe their own work and what they tried to do.	Talk about what they like or might improve in their work or others'.	Reflect on techniques used. Suggest ways to develop their work.
Vocabulary Development	Colour, mark, big/small, soft/hard, sticky, smooth	Mix, paint, brush, line, shape, pattern	Texture, tone, light/dark, blend, thick/thin, sculpture, collage	Tint, shade, warm/cool, evaluate, compare, technique, material