



Overview

Have fun discovering natural materials for mark making and creating symbols outdoors, experiences that support more formal writing at later stages.

Activities

- Involve the children in making a range of outdoor 'paint' e.g. crushed berries, wet soil, charcoal and a muddy puddle.
- Natural materials like pinecones and sticks, as well as brushes and hands, can be mark making tools. What about grass rubbing and stone scratching?
- Lining paper, clear shower curtains, walls, paths, roof slates and fabric make great mark making canvases.



Equipment

- Child-made 'paint'
- A range of mark making tools
- A range of mark making canvases
- A bucket of water to rinse hands and tools if needed

Key Questions

- What have you drawn?
- How did you make these marks?
- Can you find other tools to use?
- What do you think would happen if we added more water or mixed the paints?
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Learning Outcomes

- Science - discovering properties of materials, cause and effect.
- Use of gross and fine motor skills.
- Language - marks as a foundation for writing. Sharing ideas and outcomes

Progression in Learning

- Support letter formation using natural materials.
- Explore patterns occurring in nature through the seasons