Mark Making Magic

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?

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.