



Curriculum learning

Expressive art and design

Exploring and using media and materials
30-50 months – Beginning to be interested in and describe the texture of things.
40-60 months – Experiments to create different textures. Understands that different media can be combined to create new effects. Manipulate materials to achieve a planned effect.

Communication and language

22-36 months – Uses language as a powerful means of widening contacts, sharing feelings, experiences and thoughts.
30-50 months – Uses talk to connect ideas, explain what is happening and anticipate what might happen next, recall and relive past experiences. Builds up vocabulary that reflects the breadth of their experiences.
40-60 months – Extends vocabulary, especially by grouping and naming, exploring the meaning and sounds of new words. Uses talk to organise, sequence & clarify thinking, ideas & feelings.

Physical Development

16-26 months – Makes connections between their movements & the marks they make.
22-36 months – Shows control in holding and using tools.

Essential clothing for messy play:
Old clothes, wellies.... Nothing beautiful! 😊

Talking with your child about what they are experiencing is so important. Chat about how it feels – cold, warm, rough, smooth, silky, stretchy, sticky, even the child's made up words – 'glucky' - exploring language is all part of it!

Join in and have fun yourself – sharing the joy of being messy!

Hope you and your child have hours of messy fun!



At York Road Nursery School

Why get Messy?

Messy play is extremely important for a child's development. It provides the child with an exciting, tactile and sensory experience that inspires their curiosity, allows them to explore the world around them and enhances their learning in language and creativity.

Some children, for whatever reason, do not like to get 'dirty'. That's ok! At school, staff are there to support them. We can encourage children to explore using tools or less messy materials and help them to relax, feel safe and enjoy their experiences.