

Breckon Hill

Design and Technology in the Early Years

In our early years classrooms, we understand that Design and Technology allows pupils to be curious, solve problems, think creatively and develop ideas. Our Design and Technology curriculum fosters pupils' curiosity and creativity through practical, hands-on learning, leading to tangible outcomes. We are committed to nurturing essential skills such as resilience and perseverance.

Throughout the year in both Nursery and Reception we plan opportunities for pupils to learn about:

- Cooking and Nutrition
- Mechanisms and Textiles
- Structures

Continuous provision allows for children to develop knowledge and skills over time. We also plan activities to ensure children learn key information and skills. We have termly Stay, Play and Learn sessions where parents and carers come into school and work and play with their child, experiencing activities that include design and technology tasks.

Every day children sit together in a group for their healthy snack. We talk about likes and dislikes and we all brush our teeth in the early years every day. We like to talk about the textures and tastes of food and we develop children's opinions whilst enjoying time together.

Activities include lantern making, windmills and puppets. Families learn about how we teach children to use simple tools such as scissors, hole punches and junk modelling resources and different fabrics and materials to allow pupils to work creatively and imaginatively. We encourage lots of talking about the models children make so they know their ideas are important to us.

We use various construction materials to begin to construct and build such as stacking blocks both vertically and horizontally, making enclosures and creating spaces, join construction pieces together to build and balance both large and small. We want the children to start to plan what they want to make and think about the resources in the classroom that can help them create. It is our aim that children can express themselves and talk about their creations and go on to amend and improve them.

We know Design and Technology is a great way to develop language, you can help at home by using the vocabulary:

Cooking and Nutrition mixing, measuring, baking, dough, knead, recipe, healthy, scales, ingredients, hard, soft, lumpy, rough, smooth, sweet, sour, crunchy, healthy, cutting.

Mechanisms: cut, stick, fix, join, fold, build, glue, masking tape, Sellotape, card, scissors, hole punch, stapler, split pin, paper fastener, lolly stick, craft stick, bottle top, string, fabric, ribbon, box modelling., stick, fix, join, fold, build, glue, masking tape, Sellotape, card, scissors, hole punch, stapler, split pin, paper fastener, lolly stick, craft stick, bottle top, string, fabric, ribbon, box modelling.

Structures: stack, construction, tall, stable, scissors, flap, join, tools, stick, tea