

# MINI CASE STUDY

## CREATING MARKS AND STORIES THROUGH FLOOR DRAWING

At Childhaven Nursery School we promote mark making in all spaces in different ways. A popular invitation to play for us is floor drawing.

We clear a large floor area to enable the children to make themselves comfortable and provide tools to support their mark making. All you need is some large paper or a roll end of wallpaper and mark making tools.

Initially the children may start off by observing their peers from a distance, then build up enough interest to join in. By giving children the opportunity of floor drawing, it supports their fine and gross motor skills and also encourages them to create their marks and drawings more freely.

We create lots of our stories through floor drawing using the children's marks and ideas. This can be alongside the core book we are focusing on, or through the children creating their own story while an adult scribes alongside the children's drawings and recites this back to them.

A lot of communication comes from this activity...

- "I'm going to get the spider to go fast up here."
- "The witch lost her hat down here and he got it."
- "My got a monster here."
- "Come and look here..."



HAVE A GO IN YOUR SETTING!!  
GIVE IT A GO! IT IS A SIMPLE AND EFFECTIVE WAY TO ENCOURAGE MARK MAKING WITHOUT BEING RESTRICTED TO SITTING UPRIGHT AT A TABLE.

THINK ABOUT HOW THIS CAN PROMOTE LANGUAGE, EXPLORING MARKS, LETTER FORMATION AND MORE.

What does evidence say?

The fine and gross motor skills required for literacy development are closely connected to the evidence base around physical development.

Adults need to help children understand that speech can be written down and that writing is distinct from drawings.

THANKS FOR READING!  
DANIELLE METCALFE, LEAD PRACTITIONER AT CHILDHAVEN NURSERY SCHOOL, SCARBOROUGH

