

The Ark Pre-School

EYPP focus: extending children's opportunities and experiences



Identifying needs:

The Ark uses the 2Simple online system to collate detailed individual assessment profiles for each child. Key people having an in-depth awareness of the needs and priorities of their children.

For children eligible for the EYPP, staff identified aspects of the Characteristics of Learning, and the areas of Communication and Language and PSED as areas for additional support.

Planning the EYPP spending

The team identified a range of interventions appropriate to the needs of the children. These included

- extending children's opportunities and experiences, including outings in the local area
- focused small group work
- planned circle times

The setting brought these ideas together through a theme of 'Making Connections'.

Practitioners describe the project below.

- We explored 'joining' and how we are connected as
 - families
 - friends
 - communities
- We thought about how we can join *things* together...

At circle time, we talked about how things are joined together
Eve (practitioner) showed us how her earring has two parts that can join together

We used open-ended questions to:

- extend language
- extend experience
- extend thinking
- encourage socialisation
- foster a sense of community

- Our outing

We drew up a shopping list of ideas and went to the hardware store to see what we could find!

- Extension

Children photographed their trip, making memories we could share.

This developed children's IT learning:

- recording the experience, using a digital camera
- following it up: loading photos onto computer, printing photos and displaying photos

Monitoring and assessing effectiveness of strategies

Further observations and assessments of children showed progress in the identified areas of Communication and Language and PSED, particularly in vocabulary development and in children's relationships with others. Children had also developed the learning characteristics of problem-solving and persistence.

Further details and information:

Pam McFarlane (Pre-School Manager)

The Ark Pre-School

01273 433444

<http://arkpreschool.co.uk/>