

HACKENTHORPE HALL NURSERY

Pre printed pages versus observational art!

Instead of colouring books with pre-printed pages, we give the children photos of actual images, give them real life items and let them create what they see and envisage. We let the children express themselves and encourage art and creativity on their terms. We let them paint with sticks and draw in the mud. We let them use blocks and flowers and fingers to paint with.

If the only way to encourage a child to show an interest in art is through a pre-printed page. (e.g. the image could be used to tell a story or features a favourite film or T.V character) , sometimes using a favourite familiar image can encourage a child who wouldn't normally pick up a pencil to access this area and develop their fine motor skills but we would use this alongside other ways to explore art.

Expressive Arts and Design - Taken from the EYFS Framework
"The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity. It is important that children have regular opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling them to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. The quality and variety of what children see, hear and participate in is crucial for developing their understanding, self-expression, vocabulary and ability to communicate through the arts. The frequency, repetition and depth of their experiences are fundamental to their progress in interpreting and appreciating what they hear, respond to and observe".