The Arts Progression of Skills - EYFS

Mini Griffins and Early Threes

Music
Claps and stamps to music. Shows attention to sounds and music. Enjoys singing, music and toys that make sounds. Responds emotionally and physically to music when it changes. Moves and dances to music. Anticipates phrases and actions in rhymes and songs, like 'Peepo'. Explores his/her voice and enjoys making sounds. Joins in with songs and rhymes, making some sounds. Makes rhythmical and repetitive sounds. Explores a range of sound-makers and instruments and plays them in different ways.
Art
Is starting to make marks intentionally. Explores paint, using fingers and other parts of his/her body as well as brushes and other tools. Expresses ideas and feelings through making marks, and sometimes gives a meaning to the marks he/she makes.
Drama/ Role Play
Enjoys and takes part in action songs such as ' Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'. Is starting to develop pretend play, pretending that one object represents another, e.g. a child holds a wooden block to her ear and pretends it's a phone. Uses his/her imagination as he/she considers what he/she can do with different materials.

Pre-School

Music
Sings a large repertoire of songs Listen with increased attention to sounds. Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings. Remember and sing entire songs. Sing the pitch of a tone sung by another person ('pitch match'). Sing the melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down, down and up) of familiar songs. Create their own songs or improvise a song around one they know. Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas.
Art
Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them. Join different materials and explore different textures Create closed shapes with continuous lines, and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details. Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises. Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness, fear etc. Explore colour and colour-mixing

Drama/Role Play
Knows many rhymes, is able to talk about familiar books, and can tell a long story Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else even though they are not similar. Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses etc. Make imaginative and complex 'small worlds' with blocks and construction kits, such as a city with different buildings and a park.
Dance
Increasingly be able to use and remember sequences and patterns of movements which are related to music and rhythm.

Reception

Music
Listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses. Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody Explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.
Art
Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings. Return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them. Create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills.
Drama/Role Play
Develop storylines in their pretend play.
Dance
Progress towards a more fluent style of moving, with developing control and grace. Watch and talk about dance and performance art, expressing their feelings and responses. Explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.