

Pearl Room Planning

Why we do what we do

Physical and outdoor exploration

In our baby room, we provide daily opportunities for children to move, explore, and develop at their own pace. Through a range of indoor and outdoor experiences, babies begin to build strength, balance and coordination while growing in confidence and independence. Outdoor play also encourages curiosity, ignites wonder and helps children develop meaningful connections to the natural world.

Experiences include: Baby gym and soft play, walk and crawl trails, obstacle courses, outdoor exploration and natural play, tummy time.

We want children to be able to:

- Move independently with increasing confidence.
- Squat, stand, and move to pick up objects with control.
- Begin to climb and navigate steps with support.
- Develop strength, balance, and coordination through active play.
- Explore the natural world with curiosity and a sense of wonder.

Adult role: We support children as they explore movement, offering reassurance and encouragement, providing safe, stimulating spaces, model simple movements and give children the time they need to practise, repeat and develop confidence.



Sensory, creative and messy play

We offer a wide range of sensory and creative experiences that invite babies to explore using all of their senses. Through messy play, mark making, and investigating different textures, children begin to understand the world around them which supports early creativity, coordination and rich sensory awareness in an environment where exploration is always welcomed, valued and celebrated.

Experiences include: Creative and sensory play, taste and texture exploration, messy play activities, mark making opportunities, cooking.

We want children to be able to:

- Explore a variety of materials using all their senses.
- Show curiosity when experiencing new textures and materials.
- Develop coordination through hands-on sensory activities.
- Begin to make marks using different tools and media.
- Enjoy experimenting freely through messy and creative play.

Adult role: Adults create a calm and welcoming environment where children feel confident to explore. We introduce a variety of materials, follow the children's interests and model simple language to support their understanding while keeping play open-ended and child-led.

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Music, movement and communication

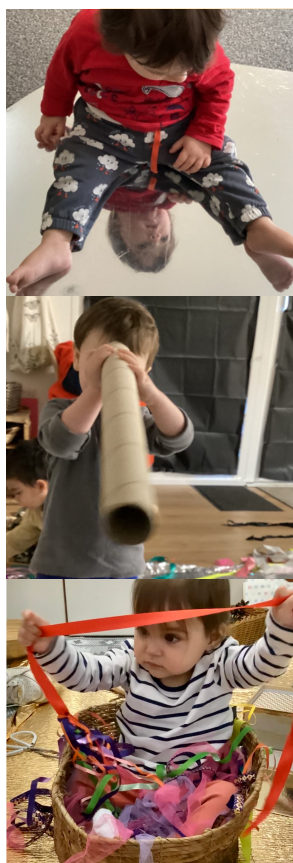
Music and movement give babies a powerful way to express themselves and connect with the world around them. Through singing, dancing and exploring sounds, children develop coordination, rhythm and communication skills. These shared experiences also support emotional development and help children feel a sense of belonging.

Experiences include: Shake and rattle (shakers, scarves, ribbons, instruments), songs with props and action songs, baby boogie (lights, bubbles, music), baby yoga, sound exploration and sensory music play.

We want children to be able to:

- Move their bodies in response to music and rhythm.
- Join in with songs, actions, and simple group activities.
- Show enjoyment and engagement in musical experiences.
- Begin to respond to simple instructions such as “clap hands.”
- Communicate and connect through sound, voice and expression.

Adult role: Adults join in with enthusiasm, modelling actions, language and expression. We repeat songs and routines to build familiarity and support understanding of simple instructions. We encourage children to interact, respond and enjoy shared musical experiences, always following the child’s lead and celebrating each unique response.



Exploration and heuristic play

We provide opportunities for babies to explore with open-ended, natural and everyday objects. Babies investigate and build relationships in a calm, nurturing and unhurried environment. Through heuristic play and treasure baskets, children develop curiosity, concentration and creativity, which supports strong attachments and positive interactions with others.

Experiences include: Heuristic play, treasure baskets, ‘Island of intimacy’ and heritage bags.

We want children to be able to:

- Explore objects and materials with curiosity and interest.
- Investigate using a range of senses in their play.
- Develop focus and concentration during calm exploration.
- Show imagination through simple exploratory experiences.
- Build secure relationships with familiar adults.
- Develop cognition, fine motor skills and independent thinking.

Adult role: Adults observe carefully and respond sensitively, building warm and trusting relationships. We provide thoughtfully chosen resources, allow uninterrupted time for exploration and support children through calm, consistent interactions so they feel safe and ready to learn.