

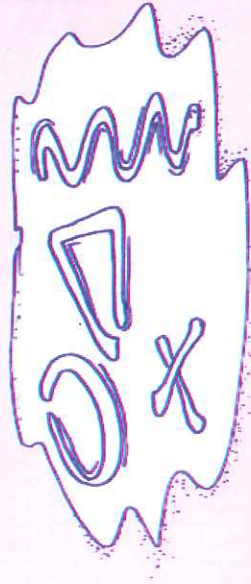
Flour fun

Key points

When children are first starting to make marks, they can find it quite tricky to use pencils and crayons. They may feel uncomfortable holding a pencil. Making marks and drawing in flour can help children to gain confidence. When children start, their drawings will just look like lines and squiggles, but it won't be long before they can make recognisable shapes and letters.

Now try this together

- This is a good activity to do just before or after you have been cooking.
- You will need a sieve and a tray or worktop.
- Get your child to put a large tablespoon of flour in the sieve and scatter the flour across your worktop or tray. You now have a layer of flour that you can write or make patterns in.
- Talk to your child about the different types of marks that they can make – straight lines, squiggles, squares, circles and triangles. Try making some patterns and pictures together in the flour. You could even try drawing some letters.
- You could use something else instead of flour – sand, lentils or pasta.



Skills

Hand and arm movements, making patterns, predicting what will come next, explaining, recognising shapes, drawing shapes

Talking points

- ▶ What shapes shall we draw?
- ▶ What are you going to draw?
- ▶ I've drawn a pattern. What do you think will come next?
- ▶ Can you make a pattern?
- ▶ Can you draw the next one?

Little badgers

The activity on this page is an ideal introduction to early drawing skills for young children. It helps develop hand and eye co-ordination. If your child is reluctant to have a go, a good tip is for you to play with the flour yourself, without saying anything. Your child will be inquisitive about what you're doing – they're sure to enjoy watching you, and they may even have a go themselves.