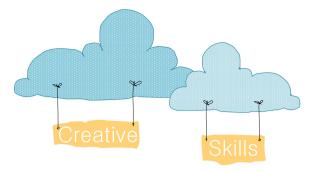
STARCATCHERS



Starcatchers Creative Skills Training

Starcatchers is a pioneering organisation that specialises in performances and creativity for babies, toddlers and young children under the age of five in Scotland. In addition to creative development and tours of performances for this age group, Starcatchers also delivers programmes of training for Early Years practitioners.

From 2013-15, Starcatchers is delivering a new pilot programme of Creative Skills Training for Early Years practitioners in Scotland. Funded by the Scotlish Government and Creative Scotland, this programme offers a range of training sessions from artists, including theoretical as well as practical sessions.

The programme is for everyone working across the Early Years sector, including staff in nursery and family centre settings, health workers, childminders, and out-of-school and play workers.

'If we are to encourage the next generation to be creative, flexible and confident, as practitioners we must first embody those principles ourselves. We need to be brave.' Rhona Matheson, Starcatchers Director

The Training

The Creative Skills training is designed to be practical, accessible and inspirational, and will enable practitioners to explore their own creative and artistic capabilities in a supportive environment before introducing new ideas and techniques into their own Early Years practice.

Art forms explored will include drama, dance and movement, visual art, music, storytelling and puppetry.

There are three parts to the programme:

• What is Creativity?

This introduction to the programme will explore ideas of creativity and cover some of the theoretical context of creativity and the arts in Early Years settings.

Creativity in Action

Practical sessions with artists who specialise in working with and for Early Years. Two sessions will be dedicated to each artform, giving practitioners the chance to experiment with some of the ideas and techniques within their own settings then engaging in reflective practice the following week.

Next Steps

A final session to bring all our participants together to reflect on their experiences, share practice and plan for the future.

Starcatchers Creative Skills Training

The Context

The training links with several key documents:

- Scotland's new Creative Learning Plan
- Creativity Across Learning, Education Scotland's 3-18 Curriculum Impact project report
- Time to Shine, Scotland's Youth Arts Strategy for ages 0-25
- Play Strategy for Scotland
- Article 31 of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child

'Creativity is a process which generates ideas that have value to the individual. It involves looking at familiar things with a fresh eye, examining problems with an open mind, making connections, learning from mistakes and using imagination to explore new possibilities.' Education Scotland, 3-18 Curriculum Impact Report, Sep 2013

The Pilot Areas

This is a two-year pilot programme running in five local authority areas in the first year: Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Fife, Inverclyde and South Lanarkshire.

Phase One: Jan 2014-May 2014

Phase Two: Aug 2014-Mar 2015

There are **no costs** attached to the programme for participants during this pilot.

Due to strictly limited spaces, participants will be chosen to reflect as wide as possible range of Early Years settings. If you are not chosen for phase one you will be encouraged to apply for the second phase.

Priority will be given to participants who can commit to the whole programme in their area.

> Aberdeen – deadline 9th December (at 9am)

What is Creativity? Saturday 18th January 10am-3.30pm, Aberdeen Art Gallery

Creativity in Action (Thursdays 4-6pm, Citymoves Studio)

30 Jan & 6 Feb Music with Rachel Drury

20 Feb & 27 Feb Drama with Hazel Darwin-Edwards

13 Mar & 20 Mar Visual Art with Brian Hartley

24 Apr & 1 May Creative Movement with Skye Reynolds

Next Steps Thursday 15th May, Citymoves Studio

➤ Edinburgh – deadline 9th December

What is Creativity? Saturday 25th January 10am-3.30pm, Faith Mission

Creativity in Action Tuesdays 3.30-3.50pm, Moffat Early Years Centre

28 Jan & 4 Feb Puppetry with Hazel Darwin-Edwards

25 Jan & 25 Feb Drama with Sacha Kyle

11 Mar & 18 Mar Dance/Creative Movement with Skye Reynolds

22 Apr & 29 Apr Visual Art with Brian Hartley

Next Steps Tuesday 13th May 4-6pm, venue TBC

➤ Inverclyde – deadline 9th December

What is Creativity? Wednesday 22nd January 4-6pm, The Beacon Arts Centre, Greenock

Creativity in Action Wednesdays 4-6pm, The Beacon Arts Centre, Greenock

29 Jan & 5 Feb Music with Rachel Drury
19 Feb & 26 Feb Drama with Sacha Kyle
12 Mar & 19 Mar Visual Art with Brian Hartley

23 Apr & 30 Apr Creative Movement/Dance with Skye Reynolds

14 May & 21 May Puppetry with Hazel Darwin-Edwards

Next Steps Wednesday 28th May 4-6pm, The Beacon Arts Centre, Greenock

> South Lanarkshire - deadline Monday 16th December

Creativity in Action Tuesdays 4-6pm, Hamilton Town House

28 Jan & 4 Feb Music with Rachel Drury

18 Feb & 25 Feb Drama with Hazel Darwin-Edwards

11 Mar & 18 Mar Visual Art with Brian Hartley

22 Apr & 29 Apr Dance/Creative Movement with Skye Reynolds

13 May & 20 May Puppetry with Hazel Darwin-Edwards

Next Steps Tuesday 27th May 4-6pm, Hamilton Town House

> Fife – deadline Monday 9th December

What is Creativity? Monday 13th January 4-6pm, Venue in central Fife TBC

Creativity in Action Mondays 4-6pm, Venue in central Fife TBC

27 Jan & 3 Feb Puppetry with Hazel Darwin-Edwards

17 Feb & 24 Feb Drama with Sacha Kyle

10 Mar & 17 Mar Dance/Creative Movement with Skye Reynolds

14 Apr & 28 Apr Visual Art with Brian Hartley

12 May & 19 May Music with Rachel Drury

Next Steps Monday 26th May 4-6pm, Venue in central Fife TBC

For more information about the Creative Skills Programme contact Heather Armstrong, Creative Skills Programme Manager

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