

Activity 6 – Mark making

Take your pencil for a walk

What to do

- Show your child how to take a pencil for a walk, i.e. put the pencil to the paper and begin to draw a randomly moving continuous line, without taking the pencil off the paper until it is covered with lines, swirls and shapes. Explain that you can do this with smooth, curved lines, straight, jagged lines or a mixture of both.
- Allow your child to experiment with the different patterns they can make – they will struggle to keep contact with the paper at first.
- Try colouring the shapes made by the walk. This is most effective with felt-tip pens.
- Try creating tiny or large collaborative patterns.

What you need

- A pencil
- Plain paper
- Pens, pencils, paint for adding colour



Extension

Dry taking a different thing for a walk, e.g. felt-tip, crayon, chalk, metallic pen on dark paper, etc.

The finished patterns can be cut out to make bookmarks, frames or decorations.

Questions to ask

How do we hold a pencil?
Can you draw a pattern without taking your pencil off the paper?
What patterns have you made?
How could we colour them?
What colours could we use?