

TOGETHER WE LEARN

Mr E often liked to paint alongside the children. It helped him to feel part of the learning group as we were all learning together. Brent saw his teacher practicing the painting of some trees for the middle ground of his painting of the dam.



"I think you will be better off testing out a few fir trees," suggested Brent.

"You are quite right Brent. I haven't quite worked out how to paint fir trees," replied his teacher.

"Come with me MrE. I'll show you how," beckoned Brent.

The teacher followed and sat beside him at his workplace.

"You see MrE, they are a sort of triangle shape and some of the branches go sideways. They even bend down towards the ground in some places. You need only to paint in a few trunks and branches as you can't see the rest. For the leaves I just dab them on with a small bristle brush like what you told us before."

He was enthusiastic with his instructions and advice. He had worked that out for himself and was justly proud of his discoveries. His confidence and self-satisfaction glowed within his smiles as he continued with his painting. His teacher shared his pleasure.

The teacher had become the pupil. The pupil had become the teacher. Teachers and pupils teaching and learning together. That was the heartbeat of our learning environment. It was beating, beating, beating.....

"Thank you, Brent, you have been so helpful. I will take up your advice right away," said MrE as he returned to the testing of his fir trees.