

## Showing feelings and emotions

*In this activity, we are looking at details in illustrations. We are exploring lines and how they can show feelings.*

### FIRST, READ ONE OF THE FOLLOWING BOOKS:

- Play Dough Faces
- How do you feel today?

Whilst you read a book that explores feelings, encourage children to play the role of 'Illustration Detectives.' They must look closely at the illustrations and look for ways the illustrator has shown how the character is feeling.

- Discuss their observations.
- Maybe the illustrator has used a specific colour on purpose?
- Perhaps they have used specific lines with the character's eyebrows?
- How do we know the character is sad or mad by looking at their face?

In this activity we are building up our fine motor muscles - very important for pre-writing.

### You will need:

- Cardstock (old cardboard boxes or cereal boxes)
- Play dough
- A variety of books on feelings and emotions

Use the cardstock to cut out a head and shoulders profile.

- Model to children how they can roll and mould the play dough to show emotions on the faces.
- Display different books that explore feelings and emotions and encourage children to try and create those feelings shown using play dough and their cardboard canvases.
- As they create, discuss with them the feelings they are trying to convey. *What lines are you using to show that? Have you ever felt this way?*

You could also provide loose parts to further extend the activity.

### To conclude, you might ask:

- Tell me about it!
  - This is an open-ended question that allows children to explain in their own words.

