

GROWING

and making new things

- Papermaking with natural materials,
- keeping a notebook of things we did in the studio and in the garden,
- sowing seeds and picking weeds
- learning to "follow a recipe"
- seeing recycling at work

Our starting point is the natural world, helping things grow, watching them change, playing and imagining together, learning to handle tools and materials.

10 May 2000 for three weeks: Workshops for playgroups, carers and children were devised and led by Sue Pritchard. The children are from the Aylesbury Play Group accompanied by two playworkers, a grandmother and a mother.

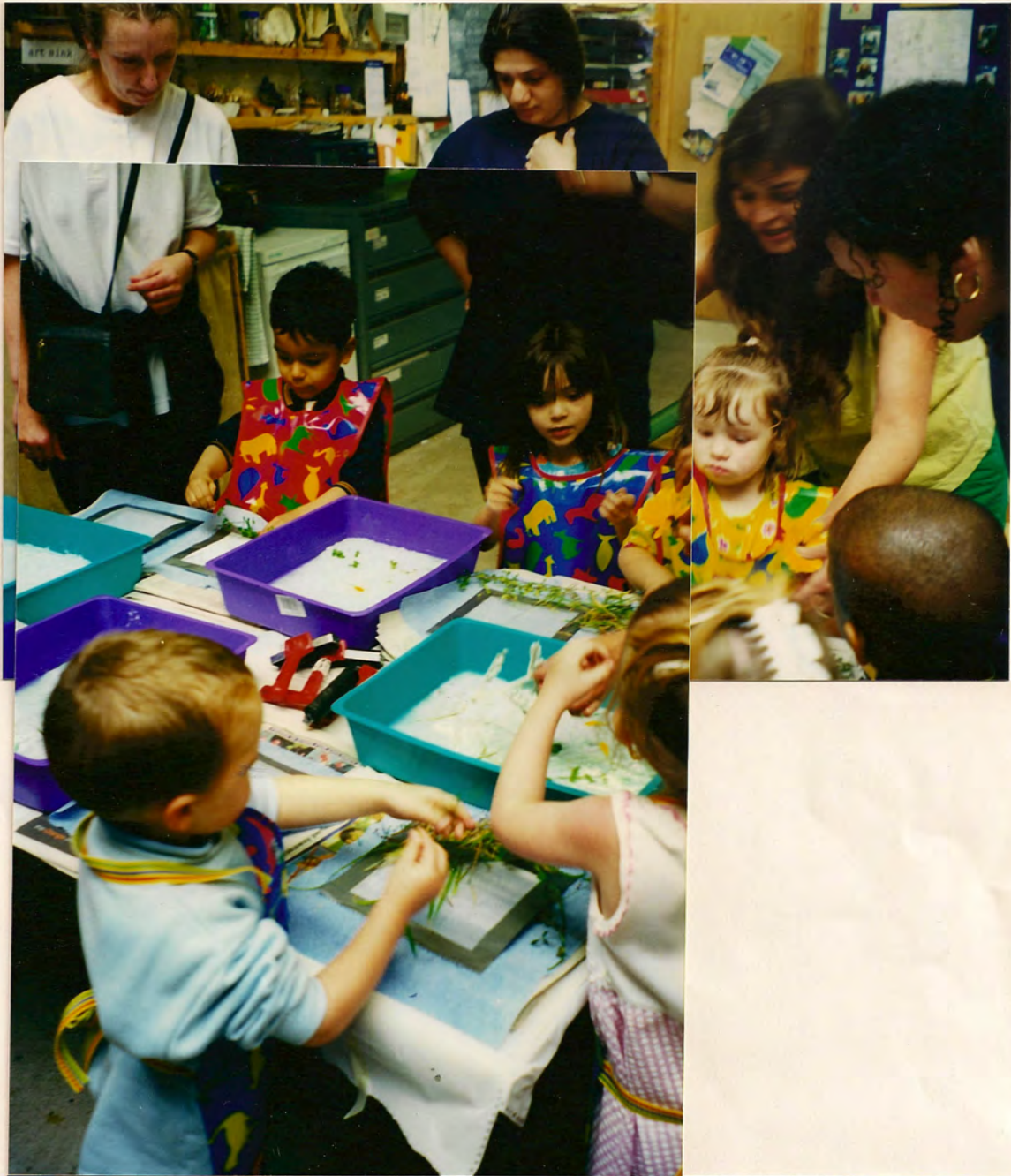




The children tore paper up into shreds and posted it into a huge box. Then Sue showed them some paper pulp that had already gone mushy and mixed some of the new material into it.

While she was whizzing it to pulp in a food-processor we picked leaves and flowers in the pot garden outside the studio to add to the mixture.







The children are rocking the deckles – the mesh frames on which paper is made – and carefully lifting them out of the paper pulp, then squeezing the excess moisture out of their sheets onto absorbent cloths with rollers

Katrina is just discovering as she picks the deckle off the top of the pile that she's made a new piece of paper.







We made the paper into individual pocket books with the children's photographs and the recipe for home-made paper. Each group worked with us for three weeks. Taking part were children, carers and parents from Aylesbury Play Group, Dyason Play Group, St John's Play Group and the Whitton family.

