



# Spirit of the Studio

CPD

ESTABLISHING A STUDIO IN EARLY YEARS SETTINGS AND  
EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITIES FOR DEVELOPING CREATIVITY

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## Description:

This CPD looks at the rich potential of having a central studio space in your Early Years setting as well as looking at options for smaller studio space and working outdoors.

We will look at the example of Reggio Emilia where all the pre-schools have “atelier” studio spaces and examine the impact these have had on children’s creative explorations. We will look at the wider context of the Reggio Emilia approach and gain insights from other influential pedagogy about the benefits of the arts on education as a whole.

There will be many examples of children’s open ended learning within the studio and examples of various provocations that have deeply engaged children. The art studio is a place for child-led artistic exploration, a laboratory for trying out ideas, playing with materials, tinkering, and exploring possibilities. It is a space when children express their creativity by following their interests. There will be lots of inspiring ideas and we’ll look at a whole range of media, from paint, charcoal, photography, materials, mirrors, projection, to digital microscopes, deconstruction and much more!

Children’s use of art media in the studio encourages communication, creativity and critical thinking. That is in essence what Reggio is all about. It is often called the 100 languages of children because of the many different ways children can express themselves in the various art media promoting children’s voice.

The training will also look at the role of “Atelieristas” – Artists in residence - looking at how schools can work successfully with local artists and the different type of contacts that can work well. There will also be practical sessions to allow you to get creative with a range of different media.

From this course you will:

## Aims:

- Learn how to establish and equip a studio space
- Understand the theory and pedagogical influences – especially from the Reggio Emilia approach
- Learn how the studio can support open ended enquiry based learning
- Learn how the studio can support creativity and imagination
- See how work in the studio supports learning in relation to curriculum
- See how the studio can facilitate cooperation and encourage communication
- Get hands on with inspiring media and learn new techniques
- View examples of children’s explorations from inspiring international settings

Pete Moorhouse is an early years creative consultant. He is an associate trainer for Early Education and a Froebel tutor and has delivered training in many countries. He is the author of several journal articles and books and was awarded an honorary research fellowship at Bristol University, currently researching creative and critical thinking in early years. Pete won the national award from the Creative Learning Guild for his work promoting creativity in education and is Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a Churchill Fellow.

AUDIENCE: EARLY YEARS LEADERS, MANAGERS, TEACHERS & PRACTITIONERS  
SESSION: INSET HALF DAY – OR AS TWILIGHT/SAT AM

PETE MOORHOUSE  
studio@petemoorhouse.co.uk