Do you want to learn more about doodling? Let's take a look at the big picture ...
doodle (verb): to draw something without thinking what you’re doing

doodle (noun): a line or shape that you have drawn when you aren’t thinking about what you’re doing

Phonemic script: /duːd(ə)l/

Synonyms: draw, scribble

Rhyming words: noodle, oodle, Google

Try this tongue twister!

Meg doodles oodles of noodles.
Why do we doodle?

“Doodles are like fragments of a map that show how someone’s mind works”

“It’s a thinking tool”

“Doodles show individuality”

The four learner types and doodling

**Auditory learners** use doodling in a listening situation to focus on what’s being said and demonstrate better recall.

**Visual learners** use doodling to process information, ideas and concepts through images and visualisation.

**Kinesthetic learners** like to move their hands, such as through drawing or doodling, to accompany their learning, which means they think better and this in turn facilitates ideas.

**Reading/Writing learners** use doodling, often repeating one word on the page, to highlight their focus and thinking.
Benefits of doodling

**MEMORY**  doodling is helpful for memory retention

**EXPERIENCE**  doodling improves the capacity to think and process information visually

**OBSERVATION/LEARNING**  doodling helps to visualise the material

**CONCENTRATION**  doodling is the body’s way of helping the mind stay focused, boosting concentration. In a study, participants retained 30% more information whilst doodling

**IMAGINATION/CREATIVITY**  doodling exercises imagination and therefore boosts creativity

**PROBLEM SOLVING**  doodling allows a different access into problem solving and insights

**CRITICAL THINKING**  doodling deepens knowledge exploration, doodling is thinking in disguise

**CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT**  doodling is like a safety valve that allows pressure to be dispelled in a playful and creative way

**COMMUNICATION**  doodling is a first attempt at communication. Drawing offers the opportunity to make thinking explicit and for the exchange of ideas and meaning.

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**COMMUNICATION**  doodling is a first attempt at communication. Drawing offers the opportunity to make thinking explicit and for the exchange of ideas and meaning.
‘When students draw they are more motivated to learn.’
Ainsworth et al (2011)

‘Recent research in neuroscience, psychology and design shows that doodling can help people stay focused, grasp new concepts and retain information.’
Shellengarger (2014)

‘The doodling group performed better on the monitoring task and recalled 29% more information on a surprise memory test. Unlike many dual task situations, doodling while working can be beneficial.’
Andrade et al (2009)

There’s a reason why doodles show up in the notebooks of our most celebrated thinkers, scientists, writers, and innovators. […] A doodler is concentrating intently, sifting through information, conscious and otherwise and – more often than we realise – generating massive insights.
Brown (2015)

Capturing important ideas by hand, whether writing words or creating images, stimulates neural pathways between motor, visual, and cognitive skills. In other words, writing and drawing can make us smarter.
Muleller (2014)

‘Picture superiority effect’ means that images are better remembered than words. Studies show ‘Drawing a to-be-remembered stimulus was superior to writing it out’. ‘Drawn words were better recalled than written.’
Everybody doodles!

From celebrities and scientists, to royalty and CEOs, everybody doodles! Can you match the people to their doodles?

1. Leonardo Da Vinci
   Painter and scientist

2. Bill Gates
   Entrepreneur

3. George Clooney
   Actor and filmmaker

4. Elizabeth II
   Queen

Answer Key: 1-C, 2-A, 3-D, 4-B
Doodle Decoder: What do your doodles mean?

What?
Lines/objects in rows: An organised person
Circular/rounded shapes: An emotional person
Square shapes: A down to earth, practical person
Triangular/pointed shapes: A determined person
Arrows and ladders: An ambitious, impatient person
Shading in of letters: An anxious, tense, person
Intricate patterns: A stressed and conflicted person
Single object/pattern: An active, busy person
Large objects: An outgoing, confident person
Small objects: A shy, reserved person

Where?
Top of page: Reflects dreams and aspirations
Bottom of page: Reflects security and material concerns
Right of the page: Reflects future and outside world
Left of the page: Reflects past and family

How?
Heavy strokes: Shows signs of frustration, obsession
Medium strokes: Shows a well-balanced person
Light strokes: Shows sensitivity
Irregular strokes: Shows restlessness and impatience

Take our quiz at www.macmillanyounglearners.com/doodletown to find out what your doodles say about you!
Welcome to Doodle Town

*Doodle Town* is our new four-level pre-primary course! Its language-rich syllabus uses artwork and drawing to improve memory, experience, imagination, and observation.

Drawing and doodling allow young children to express emotions, experience autonomy, and build confidence.

The creation of a drawing involves all of the child’s past and present experiences and gives the child a way to document his or her thoughts.

*Doodle Town* encourages communication and creative thought processes through its colorful doodle artwork and by encouraging children to draw as they learn.

Students are introduced to new vocabulary items with bright images and dialogue, doodling an item of vocabulary onto the scene in Lesson 2 of their *Student Book*.
For young children, doodling and drawing engage the mind and, when used in a **communicative** and **collaborative** manner, helps them
- understand and define words.
- make **cognitive connections** between different objects — moving incoming information into a bank of knowledge for everyday use.
- develop greater **communication skills**.

The **Teacher’s Edition** provides ideas in every unit for drawing activities that support cognitive development.

The **Activity Book** promotes the drawing of lines, circling vocabulary, and coloring, which aide fine motor skills development.

Help for parents and getting the most out of doodling is provided in the **Nursery Student Book** through footnotes at the bottom of the page.
Welcome to the exciting new world of Doodle Town! Children will explore English through music, movement, dialogues, stories, values, and creative thinking. They will also be exposed to a rich variety of subject-based content based on the US English Language Arts and Math Common Core State Standards adapted for kindergarten. Doodle Town is designed to support you and your class across the key areas of preschool development.

**Think**
Doodle Town supports cognitive development through dedicated math and literacy focused lessons, and by providing opportunities for children to talk about what they see on the page.

**Explore**
Doodle Town encourages children to learn about the world around them through science, math, art, social studies, and physical education.

**Create**
Doodle Town includes drawing and role-play activities to nurture memory, experience, imagination, and observation, which help children understand new words and make learning connections.

**Learn**
Doodle Town develops the whole child by fostering social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development, which gives children the tools to succeed in the next stages of their education and lives.

**Components:**
- Student Book with digital Student Practice Kit
- Activity Book
- Literacy Skills Pad
- Math Skills Pad
- Teacher’s Edition with digital Presentation Kit and Teacher’s Resource Center
- Pocket Chart
- Photo Cards
- Doodle Bunny puppet
- Posters

For more information and to download samples visit www.macmillanyounglearners.com/doodletown