

Following Madeline Hawes piece on encouraging children to be creative, Judith Milne wrote this piece. It appeared in the February 2010 Newsletter.

When my eldest grandson was about three, he made an amazing drawing of a steam train, on its rails, with sleepers and even ballast in between them.

I was astonished at the detail he included, which showed keen observation.

Initially, he wanted me to draw for him and would sit with me, endlessly issuing instructions as to what he wanted me to draw next.

He continued to draw and paint, and at the age of six produced an amazing picture of me holding his baby cousin, with all the correct proportions. I gave him as many opportunities as I could to use good paints and brushes as well as experimenting with different media.

By age nine, he was entered, by his school for a national competition and selected as one to have his painting hung in the Royal Academy.

Josh continued to progress at eleven, he was a runner up in the SAA young artist of the year and now at secondary school aged twelve and a half continues to show great enthusiasm in Art.

Judith Milne