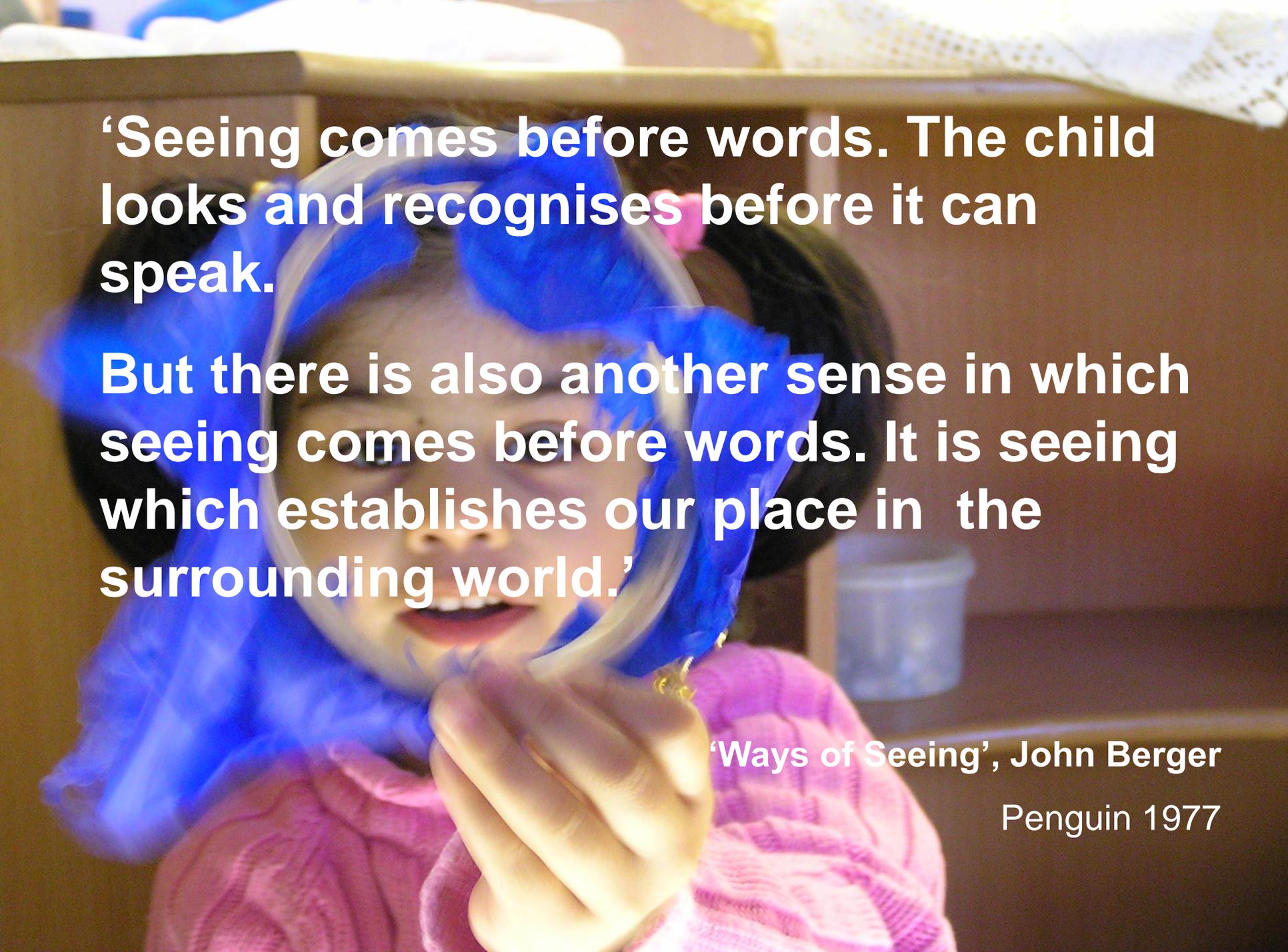




Making Connections

**Valuing the Arts, Reggio Emilia
and the role of Visual Arts at
Allen's Croft Early Years
Centre**

A young child with dark hair, wearing a blue headscarf and a pink sweater, is looking through a magnifying glass. The child's face is partially obscured by the magnifying glass's frame. The background is a wooden surface, possibly a table or desk, with some white fabric visible in the upper right corner.

‘Seeing comes before words. The child looks and recognises before it can speak.

But there is also another sense in which seeing comes before words. It is seeing which establishes our place in the surrounding world.’

‘Ways of Seeing’, John Berger

Penguin 1977

The Pre-schools of Reggio Emilia

- Emphasis on children's expressive languages-'100 languages'
- Use of an 'atelierista'
- Provision of ateliers
- Children are encouraged to express their thoughts and ideas through visual media

Visual language and communication

- Non verbal communication
- Skilled practitioners who understand the 'language'
- Valuing the arts and children's unique ways of communicating
- A way of understanding the world



Benefits of Art Making

- Form of communication
- Aids creative thinking like problem solving
- Way of interpreting, analysing and making sense of our world
- Satisfying way of working which improves self esteem and confidence

Developing interests and exploring new ideas

- Exploring two dimensions and mark making
- The transformation of materials
- Developing schematic ways of working
- Developing visual language
- Developing ways of understanding what we see

