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Book Review

'How children can control their own mathematical experiences'

In a nutshell, the aim of *Children's Mathematics* is to hear the voice of the emergent learner. The authors of this ground-breaking book champion the freedom of children to make sense of the world around them by creating mathematical literacy through marks and graphics of their own making, representations that mean something to them. This book is about seeing beyond the 'scribbles' children make and treating them seriously because they are full of significance.

The book argues that teachers can support children's maths schemas by exploring and developing their mathematical marks and extend their thinking through direct modelling. This is not a one way street but a reciprocal relationship where ideas are co-constructed, negotiated, encouraged and valued.

This innovative book is very well referenced and you do have to hike over a quite a few academic names and studies along the way but the insights and views are worth it. To single out any one chapter would be unfair because there is something thought-provoking and inspirational throughout. If you want to expand your understanding upwards and outwards then get a copy soon.

Reviewer: John Dabell, Education Consultant - Former Numeracy Consultant & Ofsted Inspector