



# ROMLIT



## Developing Early Years Literacies, through Gypsy, Roma and Traveller heritage

### What is ROMLIT?

ROMLIT is an innovative project which develops Early Years Literacies through Gypsy, Roma and Traveller heritage. ROMLIT helps unlock the potential of all children's literacies through context-specific, community-sensitive and relevant materials and practices it helps develop. We use participatory and children-led methodologies which are sensitive to the needs of parents, carers and children at the early years stage. We create training, Continuous Professional Development courses and bespoke resources to serve the professionals and carers who work with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children.

We explore literacies in formal and informal settings and in the everyday context. We approach literacies as multifaceted and diverse social practices and we research their overlap with early years children's learning, growing and developing as learners and human beings.



## ROMLIT Outputs:

ROMLIT aims to leave a lasting legacy by changing narratives, representations, practices and knowledge. We seek to do this by:

- Co-developing and delivering bespoke Continuous Professional Development (CPD) training to schools, Local Authorities, NGOs, in partnership with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.
- Co-developing and delivering free literacy workshops to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, in partnership with these communities.
- Co-creating stories and photo books with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.
- Producing and providing schools with story sacks with traditional Gypsy, Roma and Traveller stories.
- Creating a best practice guide for how best to deliver literacy.
- Co-hosting literacy events with schools and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities to celebrate the multiple and diverse literacies.
- Hosting public lectures and project exhibitions to change perceptions and create new knowledge about the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

## How is ROMLIT funded?

ROMLIT is funded by the Joyce Morris Early Years Literacies Forum, which brings together early years practitioners, researchers and subject matter experts. The Forum aims to create a learning community and help it network, engage and collaborate. It shares the emerging findings, progress and outcomes of its three projects. It does this by

- organising a series of public lectures linked to the themes of each research project.
- co-ordinating and supporting practitioner-led networking and professional development events.
- disseminating the findings of the three research projects.
- sharing the events for open access on the UEA web pages.
- hosting a national conference for practitioners and researchers (3-4 July 2025).

