

# Characteristics of Effective Learning

## CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE LEARNING:

### Playing and Exploring (engagement)

#### Finding out and exploring:

- Showing curiosity about objects, events and people
- Using senses to explore the world around them
- Engaging in open-ended activity
- Showing particular interests

#### Playing with what they know:

- Pretending objects are things from their experience
- Representing their experiences in play
- Taking on a role in their play
- Acting out experiences with other people

#### Being willing to 'have a go':

- Initiating activities
- Seeking challenge
- Showing a 'can do' attitude
- Taking a risk, engaging in new experiences, and learning by trial and error

### Active Learning (motivation)

#### Being involved and concentrating:

- Maintaining focus on their activity for a period of time
- Showing high levels of energy, fascination
- Not easily distracted
- Paying attention to details

#### Keeping on trying:

- Persisting with activity when challenges occur
- Showing a belief more effort or a different approach will pay off
- Bouncing back after difficulties

#### Enjoying achieving what they set out to do:

- Showing satisfaction in meeting their own goals
- Being proud of how they accomplished something – not just the end result
- Enjoying meeting challenges for their own sake rather than external rewards or praise

### Creating and Thinking Critically (thinking)

#### Having their own ideas:

- Thinking of ideas
- Finding ways to solve problems
- Finding new ways to do things

#### Making links:

- Making links and noticing patterns in their experience
- Making predictions
- Testing their ideas
- Developing ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect

#### Choosing ways to do things:

- Planning, making decisions and how to approach a task, solve a problem and reach a goal
- Checking how well their activities are going
- Changing strategy as needed
- Reviewing how well the approach worked

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Showing curiosity about objects, events and people	Maintaining focus on their activity for a period of time	Thinking of ideas
Using senses to explore the world around them	Showing high levels of energy, fascination	Finding ways to solve problems
Engaging in open-ended activity	Not easily distracted	Finding new ways to do things
Showing particular interests	Paying attention to details	Making links and noticing patterns in their experience
Pretending objects are things from their experience	Persisting with activity when challenges occur	Making predictions
Representing their experience in play	Showing a belief more effort or a different approach will pay off	Testing their ideas
Taking on a role in their play	Bouncing back after difficulties	Developing ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect
Acting out experiences with other people	Showing satisfaction in meeting their own goals	Planning, making decisions and how to approach a task, solve a problem and reach a goal
Initiating activities	Being proud of how they accomplished something - not just the end result	Checking how well their activities are going
Seeking challenge	Enjoying meeting challenges for their own sake rather than external rewards or praise	Changing strategy as needed
Showing a 'can do' attitude		Reviewing how well the approach worked

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<b>Playing and Exploring (engagement)</b>	<b>Active Learning (motivation)</b>	<b>Creating and Thinking Critically (thinking)</b>
<i><b>Finding out and exploring</b></i>	<i><b>Being involved and concentrating</b></i>	<i><b>Having their own ideas</b></i>
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.
<i><b>Playing with what they know</b></i>	<i><b>Keeping on trying</b></i>	<i><b>Making links</b></i>
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.		4.
<i><b>Being willing to 'have a go'</b></i>	<i><b>Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</b></i>	<i><b>Choosing ways to do things</b></i>
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.		4.