

From *Development Matters in the EYFS* **A Unique Child: observing what a child is learning**

<b>Characteristics of effective learning:</b>		
<b>Playing and Exploring <i>engagement</i></b>	<b>Active Learning <i>motivation</i></b>	<b>Creating and Thinking Critically <i>thinking</i></b>
<b>Finding out and exploring</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Showing curiosity about objects, events and people</li> <li>• Using senses to explore the world around them</li> <li>• Engaging in open-ended activity</li> <li>• Showing particular interests</li> </ul>	<b>Being involved and concentrating</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining focus on their activity for a period of time</li> <li>• Showing high levels of energy, fascination</li> <li>• Not easily distracted</li> <li>• Paying attention to details</li> </ul>	<b>Having their own ideas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thinking of ideas</li> <li>• Finding ways to solve problems</li> <li>• Finding new ways to do things</li> </ul>
<b>Playing with what they know</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pretending objects are things from their experience</li> <li>• Representing their experiences in play</li> <li>• Taking on a role in their play</li> <li>• Acting out experiences with other people</li> </ul>	<b>Keeping on trying</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Persisting with activity when challenges occur</li> <li>• Showing a belief that more effort or a different approach will pay off</li> <li>• Bouncing back after difficulties</li> </ul>	<b>Making links</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making links and noticing patterns in their experience</li> <li>• Making predictions</li> <li>• Testing their ideas</li> <li>• Developing ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect</li> </ul>
<b>Being willing to 'have a go'</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiating activities</li> <li>• Seeking challenge</li> <li>• Showing a 'can do' attitude</li> <li>• Taking a risk, engaging in new experiences, and learning by trial and error</li> </ul>	<b>Enjoying achieving what they set out to do</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Showing satisfaction in meeting their own goals</li> <li>• Being proud of how they accomplished something – not just the end result</li> <li>• Enjoying meeting challenges for their own sake rather than external rewards or praise</li> </ul>	<b>Choosing ways to do things</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning, making decisions about how to approach a task, solve a problem and reach a goal</li> <li>• Checking how well their activities are going</li> <li>• Changing strategy as needed</li> <li>• Reviewing how well the approach worked</li> </ul>