Characteristics of Effective Learning

Playing and Exploring (engagement)	Active Learning (motivation)	Creating and Thinking Critically (thinking)
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)	**Being involved and concentrating** • Maintaining focus on their activity for a period of time • showing high levels of energy and fascination • not easily distracted • paying attention to details **Keeping on trying** • Persisting with activity when challenges occur • showing belief that 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)	**Having their own ideas** • Thinking of ideas • Finding new 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 about 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

Harry Roberts Nursery 2012 adapted from the Revised EYFS