

Barton Primary School EYFS

Characteristics of Effective Learning



Characteristics of Effective Learning

At Barton, in our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), we are committed to fostering the Characteristics of Effective Learning. Our approach is designed to ignite curiosity, develop resilience, and promote a love for learning in our youngest learners. Through engaging activities, purposeful play, and tailored experiences, we nurture children's creativity, critical thinking, and active involvement in their learning journey. By celebrating each child's unique abilities and interests, we create an environment where they feel empowered to explore, question, and discover. Our dedicated staff provide a supportive and stimulating setting where children are encouraged to take risks, make connections, and persevere in their learning adventures. By embracing the Characteristics of Effective Learning, we lay the foundation for lifelong curiosity, confidence, and success.



Playing and Exploring

- Finding out and exploring
- Playing with what they know
- Being willing to have a go

Active Learning

- Being involved and concentrating
- Keeping on Trying
- Enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Thinking Creatively and Critically

- Having their own ideas (creative thinking)
- Making links (building theories)
- Working with ideas (critical thinking)

What are the Characteristics of Effective Learning?



How we do this at Barton

We integrate the use of characters with puppets such as 'Persevering Parrot' and 'Have a Go Gorilla' to enhance the development of the Characteristics of Effective Learning. These lovable characters serve as friendly companions, guiding children through their learning adventures and celebrating their achievements. Through interactions with these puppets, children witness first-hand the value of perseverance, resilience, and the willingness to learn. By engaging with these characters, children not only see their own achievements reflected, but also learn to set their own targets, fostering a sense of ownership and agency in their learning journey. Through this approach, we aim to cultivate a culture of curiosity, determination, and resilience, empowering our young learners to thrive academically and beyond.

Persevering Parrot



Go-For-It Gorilla



Meet our characters...

Finding out and Exploring

Exploring Elephant



I explore and
plan my ideas.

What an Exploring Elephant Does

Exploring Elephant embodies the spirit of exploration and planning in learning. Exploring Elephant' encourages children to delve into their interests, generate ideas, and create plans for their learning experiences.

What an Exploring Elephant creates

By fostering this process, children are empowered to become confident and resourceful learners, capable of navigating their educational journey with purpose and creativity.

Playing and Exploring



Playing with what we know

Choosing Chimp



I make
independent choices.

What a 'Choosing Chimp' does

Choosing Chimp encourages children to explore their interests, make decisions about their play, and engage with activities that align with their individual preferences and curiosities.

What a 'Choosing Chimp' creates

By empowering children to make independent choices, we promote a sense of agency and self-direction, laying a strong foundation for future learning and decision-making skills

Playing and Exploring



Being willing to have a go

Go-For-It Gorilla



I try new activities based on my interests.

What a 'Go-For-It Gorilla' does

Go-for-it Gorilla, embodies the spirit of adventure and courage in learning. 'Go-for-it Gorilla' encourages children to embrace new activities and experiences based on their interests. With boundless energy and a positive attitude, 'Go-for-it Gorilla' inspires children to step out of their comfort zones, take risks, and explore unfamiliar territories.

What a 'Go-For-It Gorilla' creates

By following Go-for-it Gorilla's lead, children develop confidence, resilience, and a thirst for discovery, laying the groundwork for a lifelong love of learning and exploration.

Playing and Exploring



Keep on trying

Persevering Parrot



I keep trying.

What a 'Persevering Parrot' does

Persevering Parrot represents resilience and focus. Through its determination and concentration, Persevering Parrot motivates children to persist through challenges. With its positive approach, Persevering Parrot encourages children to remain engaged and attentive, fostering a sense of accomplishment.

What a 'Persevering Parrot' creates

By following Persevering Parrot's lead, children grasp the importance of persistence and the benefits of staying committed to their tasks, laying a strong foundation for future success in learning.

Active Learning



Enjoying and
Achieving what
they set out to do

Proud Peacock



I achieve my goals.

What a 'Proud Peacock' does

Proud Peacock, embodies joy and accomplishment in learning. Proud Peacock revels in the pursuit of goals and delights in achieving them. With its colorful feathers and confident demeanor, Proud Peacock inspires children to pursue their interests with enthusiasm and determination.

What a 'Proud Peacock' creates

By celebrating their successes, Proud Peacock encourages children to take pride in their accomplishments and fosters a positive attitude towards learning. Through Proud Peacock's example, children learn the value of perseverance and the satisfaction of reaching their goals, nurturing a sense of self-confidence and fulfillment in their educational journey.

Active Learning



Being Involved and Concentrating

Analysing Alligator



I am beginning to correct
my mistakes by myself.

What a 'Analysing Alligator' does

Analysing Alligator is characterised by its ability to identify and correct mistakes independently, fostering self-correction and growth. With its keen concentration, Analysing Alligator inspires children to begin to examine their work critically and learn from their errors.

What an 'Analysing Alligator' creates

By promoting a culture of concentration, self-reflection and problem-solving, Analysing Alligator empowers children to take ownership of their learning process and develop resilience in the face of challenges. Through Analysing Alligator's guidance, children learn the value of learning from mistakes, building confidence and competence as they navigate their educational journey.

Active Learning



Having their own
ideas (creative
thinking)

Creative Chameleon



I have my own ideas.

What a 'Creative
Chameleon' does

Known for its adaptability and innovation, Creative Chameleon represents originality and creative thought. With its ever-changing appearance and endless imagination, Creative Chameleon inspires children to explore their own ideas and discover inventive solutions.

What a 'Creative
Chameleon'
creates

By fostering creative thinking and encouraging imaginative play, Creative Chameleon cultivates a culture of innovation and experimentation. Through Creative Chameleon's guidance, children learn to trust their intuition, think creatively, and express their unique ideas, setting the stage for future problem-solving abilities and innovative thinking.

Thinking Creatively and Critically



Making links (building theories)

Slinky-Linky Snake



I can make links
between ideas.

What a 'Slinky- Linky Snake' does

Slinky-Linky Snake is known for its ability to make connections and build theories, fostering critical thinking and exploration. With its flexible movements and keen perception, Slinky-Linky Snake inspires children to link ideas together and construct their own understanding of the world.

What a 'Slinky- Linky Snake' creates

By encouraging inquiry and exploration, Slinky-Linky Snake nurtures a sense of curiosity and intellectual growth in children. Through Slinky-Linky Snake's guidance, children learn to make connections between concepts, form hypotheses, and engage in meaningful exploration, laying the foundation for future analytical skills and deep understanding.

Thinking Creatively and Critically



Working with
ideas (thinking
critically)

Reflecting Rhino



I can check my progress
and see how well I am doing.

What a 'Reflecting Rhino' does

Reflecting Rhino is known for its ability to assess progress and evaluate performance, fostering self-awareness and growth. With its sturdy presence and thoughtful demeanor, Reflecting Rhino encourages children to pause and reflect on their learning journey. Reflecting Rhino empowers children to take ownership of their learning and make informed decisions about their progress.

What a 'Reflecting Rhino' creates

Through Reflecting Rhino's guidance, children develop a sense of accountability and resilience, learning to celebrate their successes and address areas for improvement. Reflecting Rhino plays a vital role in nurturing a culture of continuous improvement and self-discovery, laying the groundwork for lifelong learning and personal development.

Thinking Creatively and Critically

