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| EYFS Characteristics of Effective Learning |
| Playing and Exploringengagement | Active Learningmotivation | Creating and Thinking Criticallythinking |
| 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 an 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 for praise or rewards
 | 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 experiences
* 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, solving a problem and reaching a goal
* Checking how well their activities are going
* Changing strategy as needed
* Reviewing how well the approach worked
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