



## **Characteristics of Learning - Creating and Thinking Critically - (Thinking)**

### **Learning intentions - Adult interaction.**

- Use the language of thinking and learning: think, know, remember, forget,
- Model being a thinker, showing that you don't always know & are curious
- Encourage open-ended thinking by not settling on the first ideas: What else is possible?
- Always respect children's efforts and ideas, so they feel safe to take a risk with a new idea.
- Talking aloud helps children to think and control what they do. Model self-talk, describing your actions in play.
- Give children time to talk and think.
- Value questions, talk, and many possible responses, without rushing toward answers too quickly.
- Support children's interests over time, reminding them of previous approaches and encouraging them to make connections between their experiences.
- Model the creative process, showing your thinking about some of the many possible ways forward.
- Sustained shared thinking helps children to explore ideas and make links. Follow children's lead in conversation, and think about things together.
- Encourage children to describe problems they encounter, and to suggest ways to solve the problem.
- Show and talk about strategies – how to do things – including problem-solving, thinking and learning.
- Give feedback and help children to review their own progress and learning. Talk with children about what they are doing, how they plan to do it, what worked well and what they would change next time.
- Model the plan-do-review process yourself.

### **Learning Outcomes - The skills children develop.**

#### **- Having their own ideas**

Thinks of ideas

Finds ways to solve problems

Finds new ways to do things

#### **- Making links**

Makes links & notices patterns in their experience

Makes predictions

Tests their ideas

Develops ideas of grouping, sequences, cause & effect

#### **- Choosing ways to do things**

Plans, makes decisions about how to approach a task, solve a problem, reach a goal.

Checks how well their activities are going

Changes strategy as needed

Reviews how well the approach worked