

Characteristics of Learning - Playing and Exploring- (Engagement)

Learning intentions - Adult interaction.

- Play with children. Encourage them to explore, and show your own interest in discovering new things.
- Help children as needed to do what they are trying to do, without taking over or directing.
- Join in play sensitively, fitting in with children's ideas.
- Model pretending an object is something else, and help develop roles and stories.
- Encourage children to try new activities and to judge risks for themselves. Be sure to support children's confidence with words and body language.
- Pay attention to how children engage in activities -- the challenges faced, the effort, thought, learning and enjoyment. Talk more about the process than products.
- Talk about how you and the children get better at things through effort and practice, and what we all can learn when things go wrong.

Learning Outcomes – The skills children develop.

Finding out and exploring

Shows curiosity about objects, events and people Uses senses to explore the world around them Engages in open ended activity. Shows particular interests

- Playing with what they know

Pretends objects are things from their experience Represents their experiences in play Takes on a role in their play Acts out experiences with other people

- Being willing to 'have a go' Initiates activities Seeks a challenge Shows a 'can-do' activity Takes a risk, engages in new experiences & learns by trial & error.