Characteristics of Effective Learning in the EYFS

Characteristics of Effective Learning are an integral part of the Early Years and our vision at Loatlands is to create life-long respectful, resilient and curious learners. These learning behaviours are embedded in our school values and underpin our teaching and learning across the whole school. At Loatlands we understand these characteristics are central to our practice and are a statutory element of the Early Years Statutory Framework.

The Three Characteristics of effective teaching and learning are:

- Playing and exploring- children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'
- Active learning- children concentrate and keep on trying it they encounter difficulties and enjoy achievements.
- Creating and thinking critically- children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

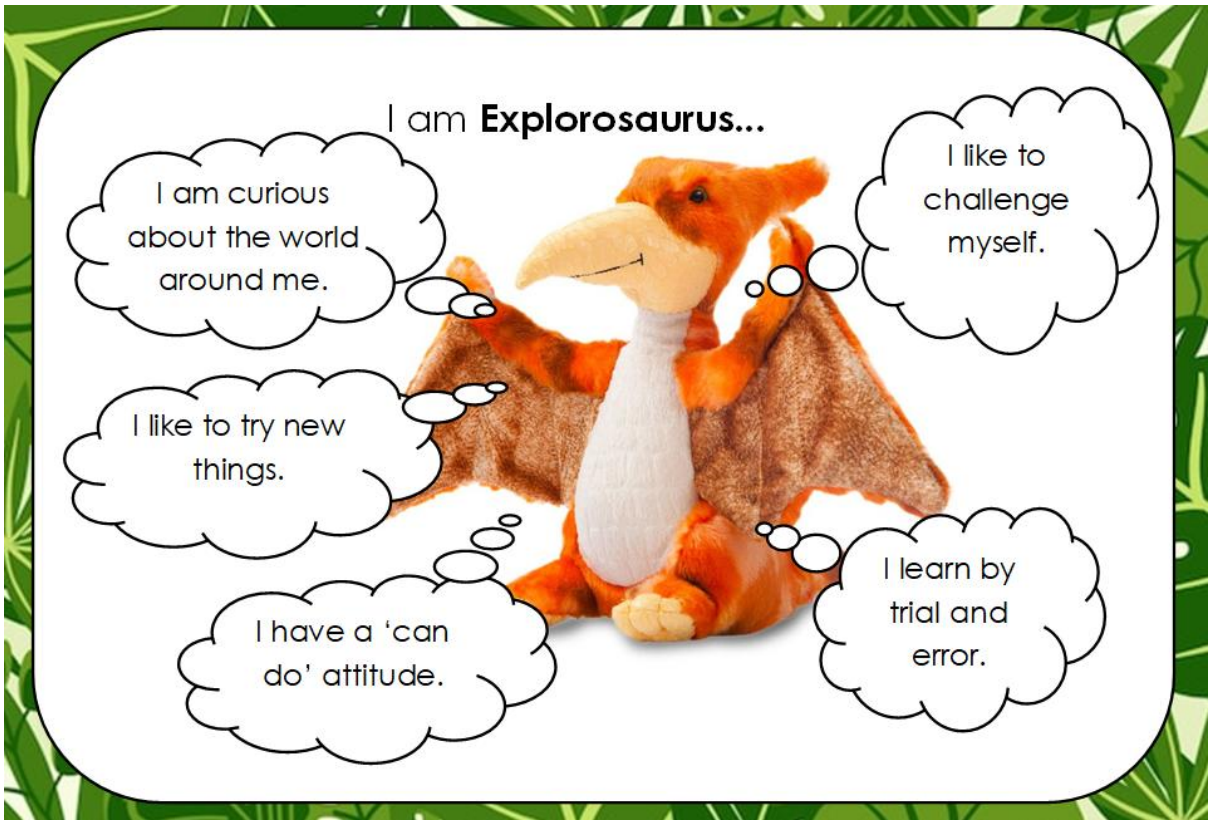
Statutory framework for the EYFS

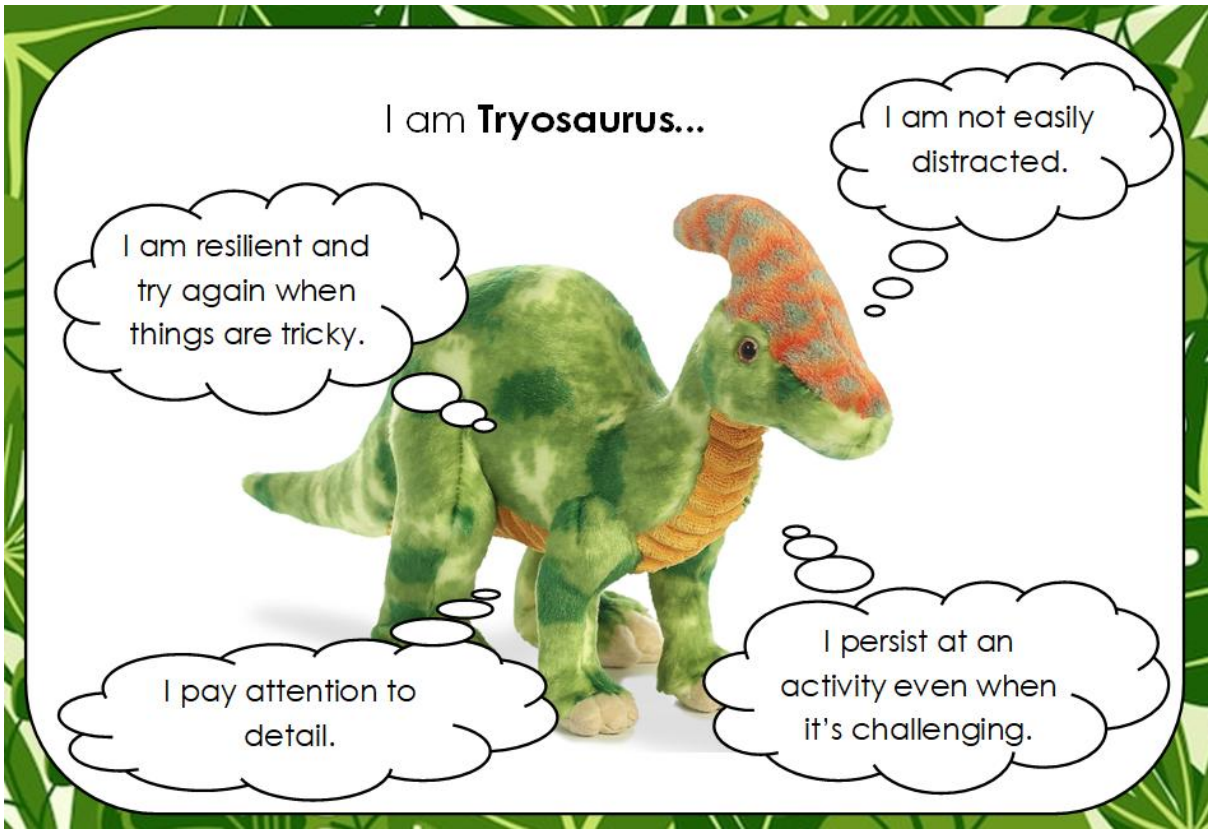
Characteristics of Effective Learning (from Development Matters)		
Playing and Exploring	**Active Learning**	**Creating and Thinking Critically**
Children will be learning to:		
1. Realise that their actions have an effect on the world, so they want to keep repeating them. 2. Plan and think ahead about how they will explore or play with objects. 3. Guide their own thinking and actions by referring to visual aids or by talking to themselves while playing 4.Make independent choices 5. Bring their own interests and fascinations into early years settings 6. Respond to new experiences that you bring to their attention.	1. Participate in routines. 2. Begin to predict sequences because they know routines. 3. Show goal-directed behaviour 4.Begin to correct their mistakes themselves 5. Keep on trying when things are difficult.	1 . Take part in simple pretend play. 2 . Review their progress as they try to achieve a goal. Check how well they are doing. 3. Solve real problems 4. Use pretend play to think beyond the 'here and now' and to understand another perspective. 5. Know more, so feel confident about coming up with their own ideas. 6. Make more links between those ideas. 7. Concentrate on achieving something that's important to them. They are increasingly able to control their attention and ignore distractions.

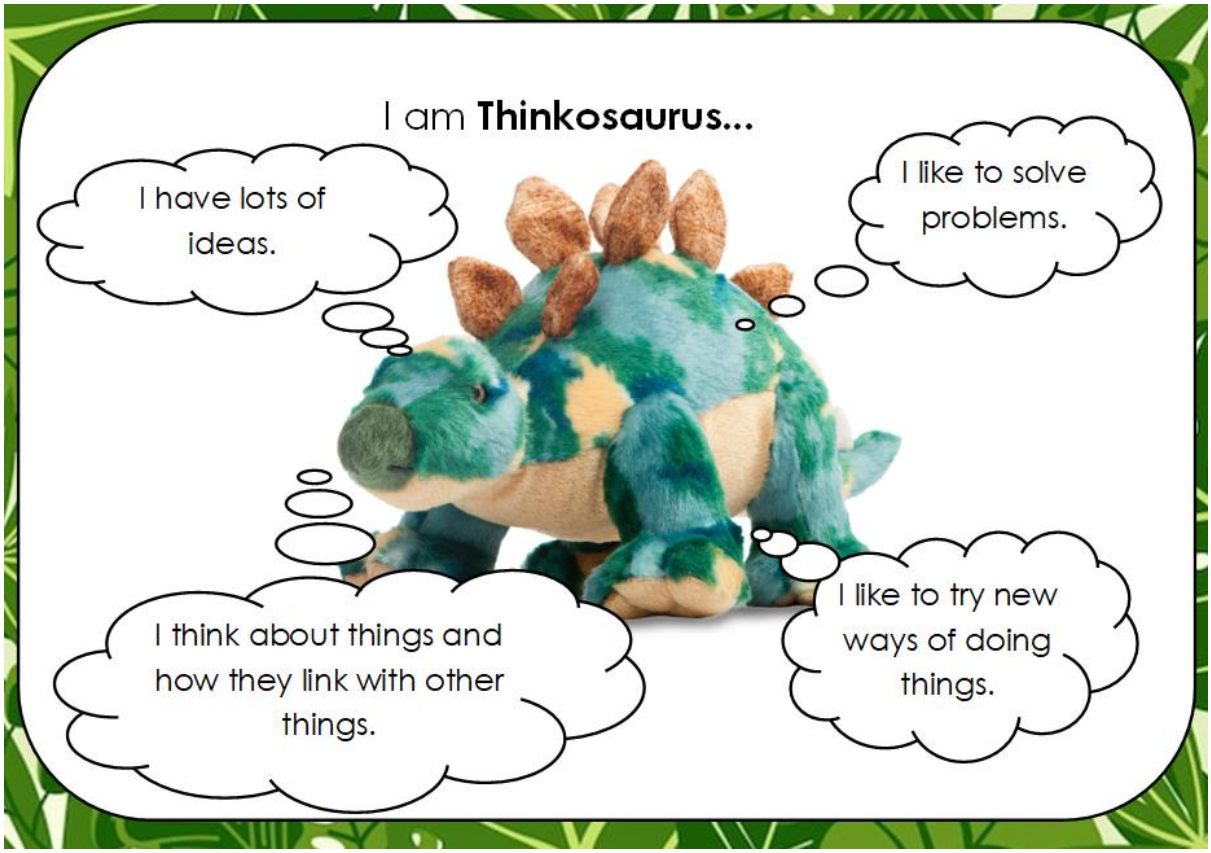
Loatlands Primary School
Characteristics of Effective Learning

To ensure the Characteristics of Effective Learning are embedded in our practice we review and share the language during carpet times with the children, staff also use the language in their feedback to the children at every possible opportunity. We understand the underpinning importance of the Characteristics of Effective Learning to make our children effective, resilient, and reflective for a lifelong journey of learning. At Loatlands the Characteristics of Effective Learning are an integral part of our approach and child's voice celebrating and sharing their own learning experiences, journey and achievements are key to our practice.

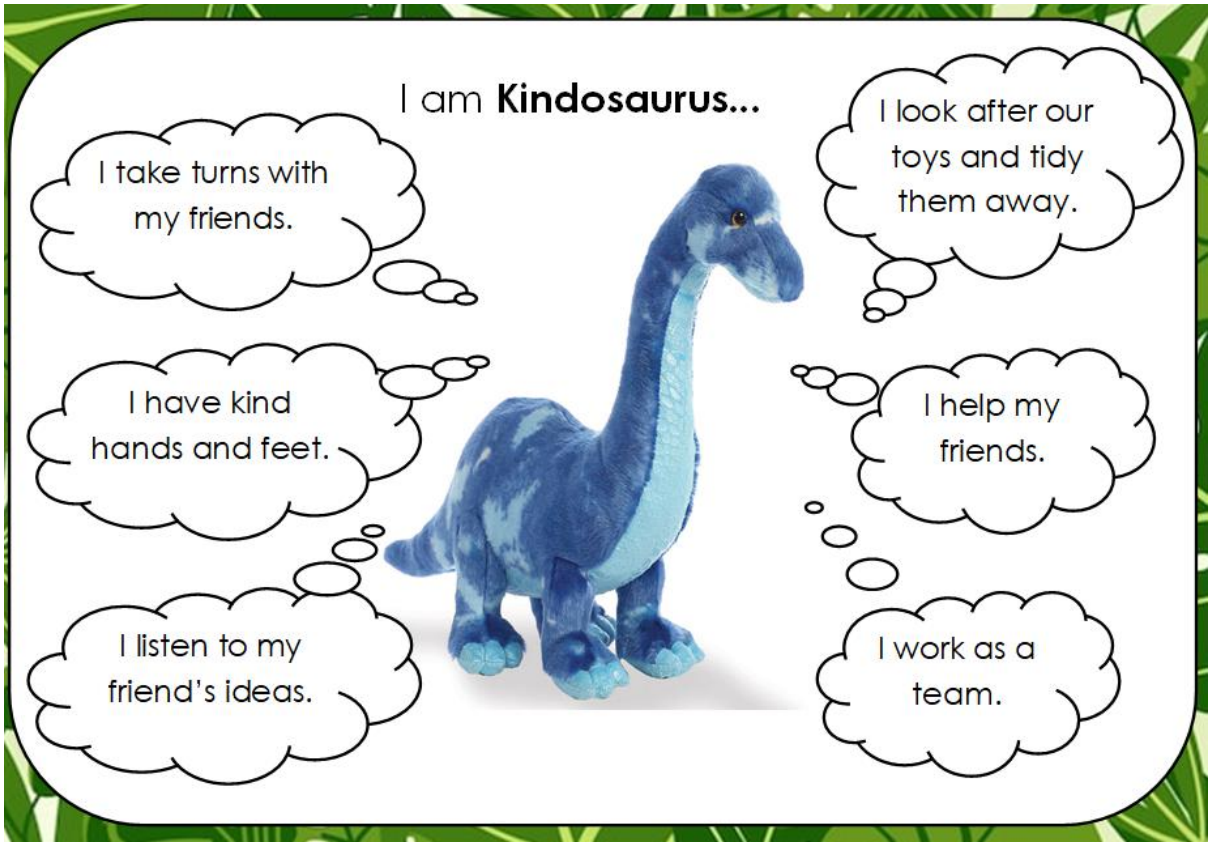
Every opportunity is used to support and develop each individual child's knowledge of the COEL and reflection of themselves as a learner, their ability to articulate their own learning journey and the process of learning. To support our children's grasp of learning behaviours and to act as a scaffold for learning we use our Learning Dinosaurs:




I am **Tryosaurus...**
I am not easily distracted.
I am resilient and try again when things are tricky.
I pay attention to detail.
I persist at an activity even when it's challenging.


I am **Thinkosaurus...**
I have lots of ideas.
I like to solve problems.
I think about things and how they link with other things.
I like to try new ways of doing things.

At Loatlands we value **kindness** and respect above all else and have introduced a fourth dinosaur alongside the others:



These are at times directly taught to support all our children but staff at Loatlands are experts at taking in the moment opportunities and using the non-statutory Development Matters guidance to support each uniquely individual child as a learner.