

Building Learning Powers



What is learning power?

“An approach to help young people to become better learners both in school and out... it’s about creating a culture that cultivates habits and attitudes that enable young people to face difficulty and uncertainty calmly, confidently and creatively.”

(Professor Guy Claxton – founder of BLP)



Learning-power muscles

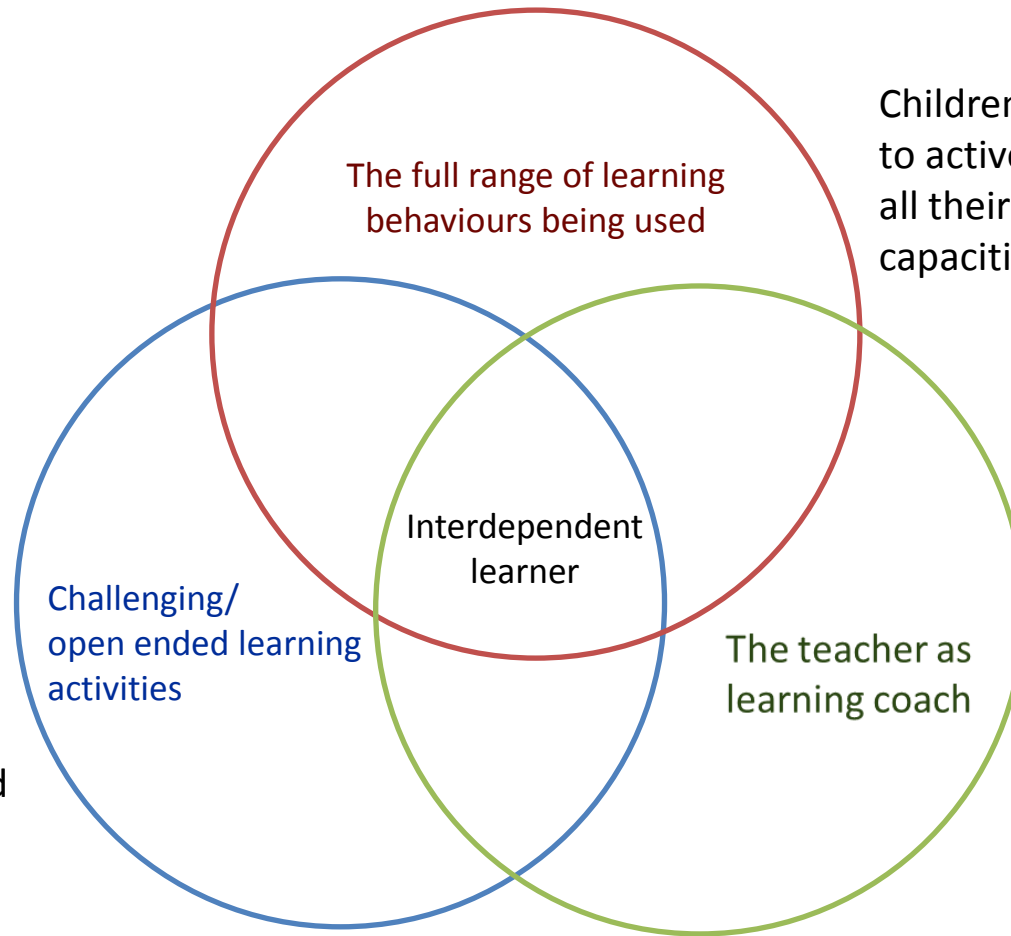
In order to be effective learners, Guy Claxton has identified **seventeen key characteristics/capacities**, which he has organised under **four main learning power dispositions**:

- Resilience
- Resourcefulness
- Reflectiveness
- Reciprocity



The right learning mix

We want children to understand about their learning behaviours and become independent /interdependent learners.



Children need to be able to actively use and grow all their learning capacities

Challenging/
open ended learning
activities

The teacher as
learning coach

The role of the teacher changes from a knowledge expert to a learning coach.

The learning activities need to be challenging (engaging curiosity and perseverance).

We believe that this mix will give us interdependent, lifelong learners.

Our learning journey so far...

- Whole school training session in January 2016
- Introduction of the first three learning characteristics, Perseverance, Questioning and Collaboration
- Staff identify key learning characteristics which they believe to be of paramount importance to young learners.
- This has lead to...

Nascot Wood Infant and Nursery's

5 Cs

- **Challenge** – Resourcefulness
- **Curiosity** – Resourcefulness
 - **Choice** – Reflectiveness
- **Collaboration** – Reciprocity
- **Concentration** – Resilience

Plus,

We hope that the children will become **confident** in applying the above characteristics when engaged in a range of learning experiences.

Having had so much success with Percy, the Persevering Penguin, we are adopting 6 mascots to go along side each of the characteristics.



Confident Camel



Challenge Cheetah



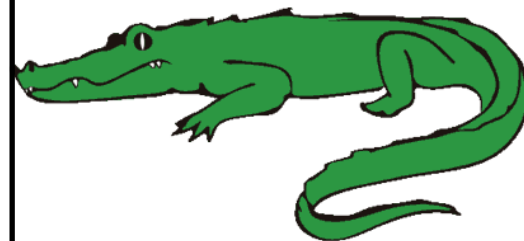
Curiosity Cat



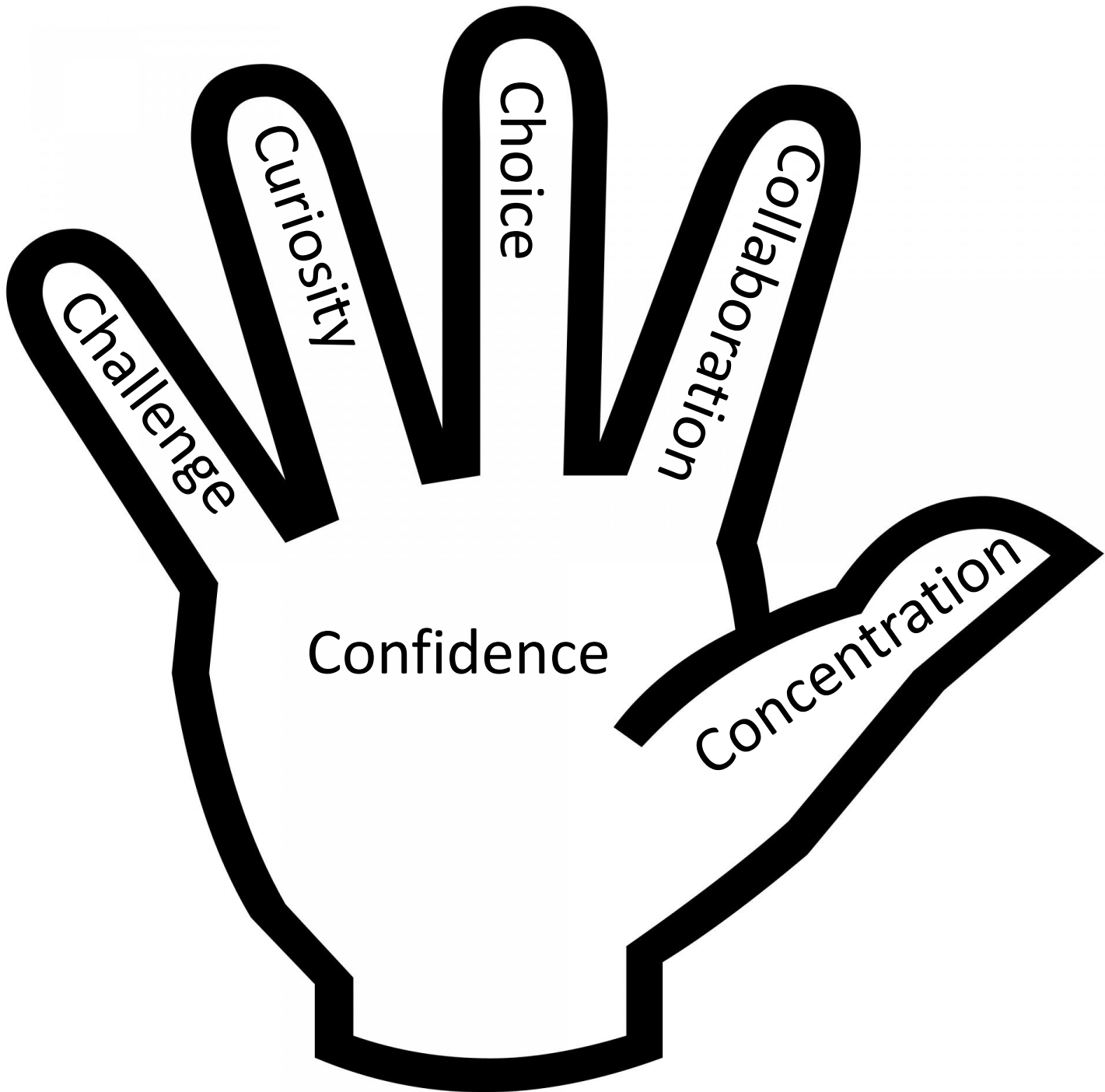
Choice Chimp



Collaboration Caterpillar



Concentration Croc



Challenge

Curiosity

Choice

Collaboration

Concentration

Confidence

Our next steps

- January 2017 – Introduce Challenge Cheetah
- Links with priorities on our Development Plan
- Key Stories Linked to each of the Capacities/
Characteristics.
- Links with planning

Challenge Cheetah



- Links with Stories:
- [Flight School – Lita Judge](#)

This story teaches the children:

- *the importance of aiming high.*
- *the need to identify precise skills and to practise them in order to learn.*
- *the need to sometimes seek help from others and learn from others.*

Challenge Cheetah



- ***The Beautiful Oops – Barney Salzberg***

The story teaches the children:

- *it is ok to make mistakes*
- *We can use our mistakes to help to move on our learning.*

- ***Giraffes Can't Dance – Giles Andreae***

This story teaches the children:

- *Sometimes we have to think 'outside the box' to solve problems*

The Princess and the Frog

