

St Mildred's Learning Powers



At St Mildred's we have a set of special powers that help us learn. These are called our Super Learning Powers and there are 8 of them.

Each power has a character with a story to help explain the power and we have put these in a booklet for you. We hope the children will explain to you what the learning powers are and how we use them! At school the children are very good at telling us which learning power they are using and how it is helping them to learn!

Don't give up Donald Duck



One sunny morning, Donald the duck was happily swimming along the river where he lived. The river was flowing very fast and his legs had to paddle very quickly under the water so he didn't get washed down the river! That morning, some children went with their teacher down to throw some bread to feed the ducks. All the other ducks were swimming nearer to the edge than Donald, and quickly gobbled up most of the bread before swimming away. Donald could see the children throwing bread but the river was too fast for him to swim over. He tried to swim over three times, but each time he nearly got washed underneath the water! After that, he saw a rock nearby. He used all his energy to swim to the rock, then jumped over the fast flowing water to where the children were, and because they had seen how Donald hadn't given up they threw him some extra bread!

If you are being a Don't give up Donald you will:

Work hard

Practise lots

Keep going

Try new strategies

Ask for help

Start again

Take a brain break

Concentrate Colin Caterpillar



Once upon a time there were a family of caterpillars – Mummy caterpillar, Daddy caterpillar and their son, Colin the caterpillar. One day, Mummy caterpillar asked Colin to go out and collect some leaves for dinner. As he set off he met his friend Tom, who wanted to go and play football. But Colin said “No, I need to collect my leaves”. A bit later, he met his cousin Casper, who asked him to go to his house for lemonade, but again, Colin said “No, I have to collect leaves. I need to concentrate on what Mummy asked me to do”. When he had finished collecting leaves, he went home and told his Mummy what his friends had said. “Well done Colin for concentrating on what I asked you to do, now you have finished, you can go and play!”

If you are being a Concentrate Colin you will:

Not get distracted

Get lost in the task

Do one thing at a time

Break things down

Plan and think it through

Draw diagrams, jot down thoughts or things which help you think

Co-operate Tim and Tina Tortoise



It was a stormy night, when Tim the tortoise went to visit his friend Tina. She was huddled up inside her shell on the seashore, shaking in the cold and rain. Tim was very upset when he saw his friend so sad. "Why don't we build a hut before the thunder comes and we can shelter there together?" Tim said to Tina. "I've already tried, and I can't manage" Tina cried. But Tim ignored her and started to gather together some sticks. "Please come and hold these together while I tie them" asked Tim because he couldn't do it by himself so Tina crawled over. Together they worked hard to build the hut and stayed there together in the warm while the thunderstorm went through the sky above them.

If you are being Co-operate Tim and Tina you will:

Listen to others

Say when you don't understand

Be kind when you disagree

Explain things to help others

Be tolerant and patient

Have a go Harold Hedgehog



One lunchtime, Harold the hedgehog was talking to his friends who all played musical instruments. Harold felt very sad because he wanted to play an instrument too. He borrowed a violin, but it only sounded squeaky when he tried to play, making Harold feel very sad. He tried playing a flute, but no sounds came out at all! This made Harold feel even more sad. He decided to try playing a piano, but it didn't sound like when his friends played at all. Harold was very upset and went to sit in the corner. His friends saw this and didn't like to see him so sad. They decided to give him one more instrument to try – a drum kit. They carried it over to him, but Harold was so sad he didn't even want to try. His friends told him to just “have a go”. Slowly, he picked up the drumsticks and started to play. He was amazing at playing the drums and if he hadn't had a go, he would never have known!

If you are being a Have a go Harold you will:

Be willing to try

Don't worry if it goes wrong

Learn from mistakes

Be excited to try new things

Curious Cathy Camel



Cathy the camel was walking across the desert, when she saw some huge things made out of stone. She had never seen any before and didn't know what they were. She asked her friend Mary, but Mary didn't know what they were either. Cathy then asked her friend James but he didn't know what the huge stone things were either! She kept asking all her friends, but none of them knew what the stone things were called. She almost gave up, but decided to ask one more person. Cathy went over and saw another camel she hadn't spoken to before. "Excuse me, but do you know what those big stone things are called?" she asked politely. "They are called pyramids" the camel answered, and Cathy was glad she had kept asking her question until she had an answer.

If you are being a Curious Cathy you will:

Ask questions

Notice things

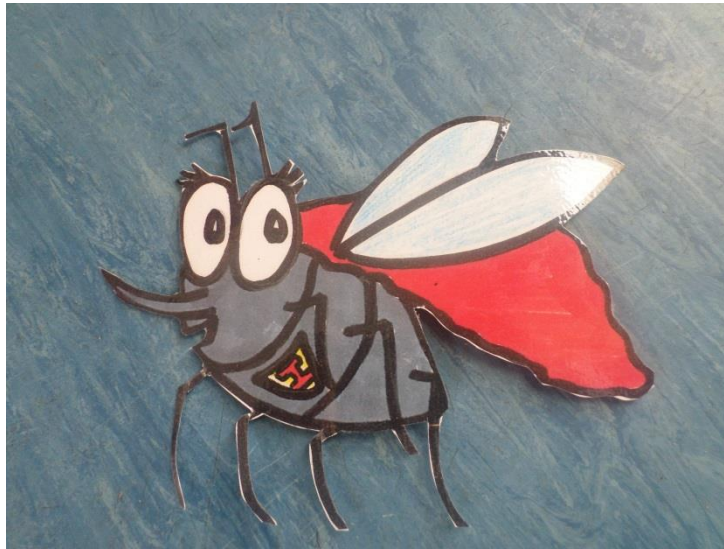
Look for patterns and connections

Think of possible reasons

Research

Ask 'What if..?'

Keep Improving Ivy insect



One summer's day, Ivy the insect was busy sucking nectar from flowers near her house. Her Mum had been teaching her how to fly, and she wanted to practice so she crawled to the edge of the plants leaf and jumped into the air. Unfortunately, she had forgotten everything she had been taught and she fell straight to the ground! But Ivy the insect didn't stop, she decided to try again (just like Donald the duck) and climbed back up the plant to the edge of the leaf. This time, she remembered to flap her wings as she jumped and she went a little bit further before she fell to the ground. Ivy was happy that she had gone further so she kept climbing up the plants and improved her flying every time. Finally, she jumped into the air and managed to fly all the way home. When she got home, her Mum was very proud of her, but she was also very proud of herself for practising and improving every time.

If you are being a Keep Improving Ivy you will:

Keep reviewing your work

Identify your best bits

Improve one thing first

Try to be better than last time

Don't compare yourself to others, only yourself!

Take small steps

Imagination Isabel Iguana



Isabel was a lovely colourful iguana. She loved being a lizard and especially enjoyed playing with her friends. Sometimes though, she would feel sad when she would go to visit them because they had lots and lots of toys to play with. At her house, Isabel didn't have very many toys, but she often collected boxes and other things to play with. One day, Isabel and her friends were all playing together with some cars and they wanted a garage to fix some broken cars. All her friends were upset because they couldn't carry on their game, but Isabel showed her friends how to use a cardboard box to make and pretend to have a garage. All her friends agreed that they were glad Isabel had a good imagination so they could play their game together.

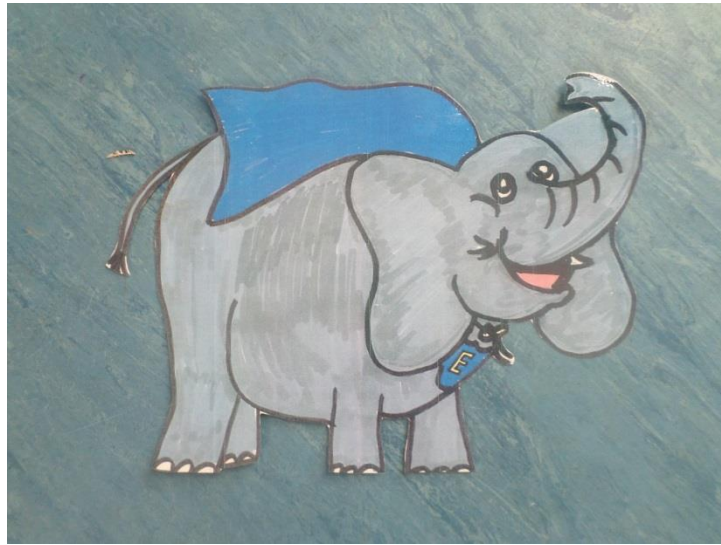
If you are being an Imagination Isabel you will:

Be creative

Let your imagination go

Think up new ideas and questions

Enjoy Learning Edward Elephant



One winter day, Edward the elephant was at school. Edward had been very excited about PE that morning, but halfway through the morning it started to rain outside. Edward's teacher said that they wouldn't be able to do PE anymore and that they could do some writing instead. Even though Edward was sad, he decided to try hard at writing. Other elephants in his class were sad and didn't want to try at their writing and they stayed sad all morning, but Edward tried his best. Because he tried hard and wasn't sad, he enjoyed what he was learning and learnt lots more! (And he was allowed to do PE in the afternoon!)

If you are being an Enjoy learning Edward you will:

Feel proud of all your achievements

Love learning!

Imagine your intelligence growing by the minute!

Use what you have learnt in real life

Know you can do it if you have input and you practise



Ruby Resilient Rhino

Once upon a time there lived a Rhino called Ruby. She lived with her Mum and Dad in the jungle. One day Ruby went to school and the teacher said they were going to have some races. Everyone was very excited! "I will be the winner" said the Cheetah "as I am easily the fastest!" "No, no!" said the Jaguar "it will be me!" "Oh no, thought Ruby, I can't run as fast as the other animals. This is going to be so hard for me. I don't want to race at all. Everyone got ready and went outside to race and the Cheetah won, followed very closely by the Jaguar. Ruby came last and she burst into tears. The teacher came over to ask what was wrong and Ruby told her that she knew she would be no good at racing and that she didn't want to do it again. "Come on Ruby" said the teacher. "I know you feel sad and that is ok. Sometimes things are hard but it doesn't mean it should stop us from doing it. That's called being resilient." But Ruby didn't feel any better.

The next day she was doing some spelling and she spelt a word wrong. When the teacher came to help her with the word she got so cross that she threw her pencil on the floor! "Ruby, don't get cross just have another try. Remember we are just learning and we can't always get things right. When you take a breath and keep trying that's called being resilient".

The next day Ruby was doing some drawing and she couldn't quite get the face right on her picture. She was about to cry and throw the picture away when she thought about what her teacher had said. She took a deep breath and had another go at drawing the face. It looked a bit better this time so she kept trying. Her teacher had spotted what Ruby was doing and came over to her. "Well done Ruby!" she said. "You have just shown resilience. Something was hard to do and you might feel upset but you just bounced back and tried again!" From that day Ruby always remembered when something was hard she wasn't going to let it upset her or make her cross but that she was going to take a breath and try again and be resilient! And that is how she got her name of Ruby the Resilient Rhino.

If you are being a Ruby Resilient Rhino you will:

Try not to worry that things might go wrong

Be able to 'bounce back' and keep trying

Know that its ok to feel sad or cross but don't let your emotions stop you trying

Remember that challenges aren't things that "get in the way" of life, they are part of life.

Think about other times when you have faced difficulties and remember that you got through them

Talk about your struggles and ask for help when you need it