

## Building Learning Power (BLP) and Growth Mindset

### Information sheet for Parents and Carers

At Cranmore, we aim to develop our pupils' learning power enabling them to learn more easily and effectively but also to become successful lifelong learners.

### What is BLP all about?

BLP is about helping children to become better learners both inside school and out. Being a good real- life learner means knowing what is worth learning and what you are good (or not so good) at learning. It is also knowing who can help, how to face confusion without getting upset and what is the best learning tool at hand for support.

Pupils who are more confident of their learning ability, learn faster and learn better. They concentrate more, think harder and find learning more enjoyable.

### There are 4 key learning qualities (The 4 R's)

We can think of these learning qualities as being like groups of "learning muscles". Just as we can build our muscles by doing the right kind of physical exercise, we can exercise our learning muscles to develop their strength and stamina. Developing the qualities that make success as a lifelong learner equates to achieving a good level of all round learning fitness.

Each class has a BLP bear, learning tree and four animals, relating to these 4 learning qualities. BLP bear spots children demonstrating these learning qualities in class.

### Resilience- The Tortoise

Based on the story of "The Hare and the Tortoise". The tortoise wins the race even though it takes him a long time . If you can persevere and keep trying, manage your distractions and put in a lot of effort- you can be a successful learner like the tortoise. He never gives up!



### Resourcefulness- The Spider



The spider teaches us that there are lots of things in the classroom that helps us to learn. He uses all of his legs to collect learning tools and resources for support- number tracks, alphabet lines, word mats etc. If you can find a resource to help you- you can succeed at your learning without having to ask your teacher.

### Reciprocity- The Bee



The bee teaches us to collaborate with our friends. Collaborating effectively is the key to a flourishing bee hive. Sometimes working together is the best way to learn. We can share ideas with our friends and help them when they are stuck. We can also imitate and learn from their strategies.

### Reflectiveness- The Owl



The owl is wise and likes to reflect back on his learning experiences. What was difficult or easy the last time this kind of learning was carried out? What could I do differently to make it easier this time? The owl is not afraid to revise and change his plan even if he has nearly finished it.

### Keeping in Mind the Bigger Picture



As a result of using learning power children should become:

- More aware of the attributes of successful learning and learners
- More curious
- More willing to take a risk
- More creative
- More thoughtful
- More ready, willing and able to learn with and through others.



## How you can help at home

- Ask your children about the learning muscles they have been using at school.
- When your child becomes stuck, ask them to think about what one of the learning animals would do to become unstuck.
- Welcome and foster your child's questioning spirit as much as you can.
- Involve them in your own learning activities. Try to "think aloud" as you try a new recipe or attempt a challenging DIY task. It helps children if they can see that you too can struggle with uncertainties and then cope with them.

### Growth Mindset.

A growth mindset is the belief that intelligence improves through study and practice. Children with a growth mindset tend to see challenges as opportunities to grow because they understand that they can improve their abilities by pushing themselves. If something is hard, they understand it will push them to get better.

Please help your child to believe that effort is the most important thing to help them improve. Praising your child for their effort is one of the best things you can do. Children need to understand that if they work hard and keep trying they will get better and make good progress.

Please have a look at the following links:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/help-your-child-try-new-things>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-swZaKN2lc> The Power of Yet (Carol Dweck).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLYECljmnQs> Famous Failures- 2.58.

We all have the capacity to change and improve as children or adults. However most importantly we definitely can inspire children to believe in themselves and have the power to believe that they can be the best and achieve what they want.