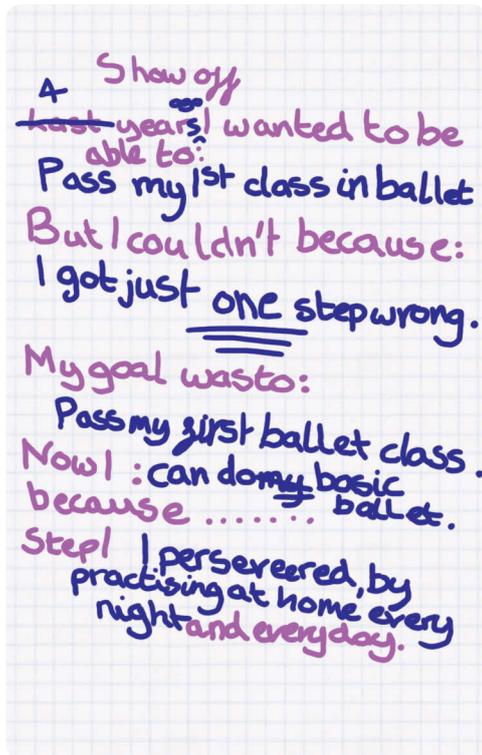


# FINDING OUT ABOUT LEARNING

## USING LEARNING-POWER SCRAPBOOKS



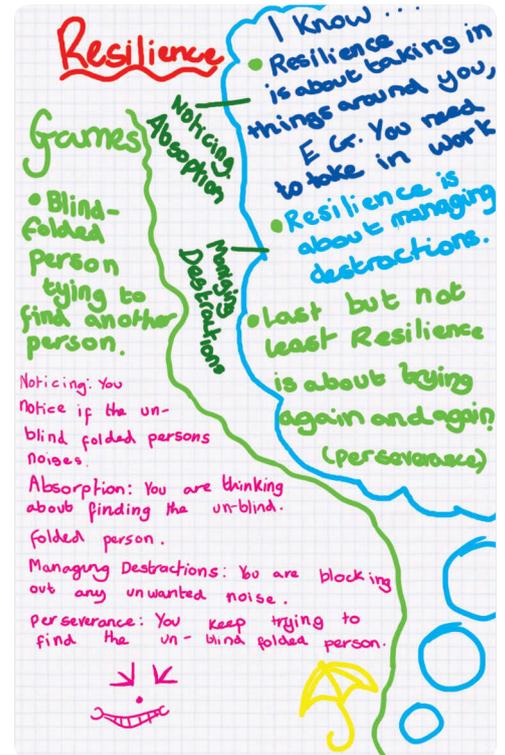
### INDIVIDUAL SCRAPBOOK

Children were encouraged to think about themselves as learners in all contexts — inside and outside of school time. This child has reflected on her ballet skills and how she had used her learning power to help her improve.



### INDIVIDUAL SCRAPBOOK

Warm-ups (see page 13) are often used to delve deeper into learning behaviours and how to use them. These can be practical activities, investigations, drama or indeed written challenges. The children often choose to use strategies generated or ideas presented from these in their scrapbooks. They find them useful as prompts or to highlight unexpected outcomes.



### CLASS SCRAPBOOK

All our heroes become part of our class scrapbook. The children go back to the heroes and think about how they might do something, particularly when they are stuck with their own learning.

## WHERE WE STARTED

We wanted to find an exciting, child-led way for children to reflect on their learning skills and those of others. We introduced learning scrapbooks in which the children recorded their thoughts and strategies for learning, which they could refer back to at any time. The learning scrapbooks are more than a journal; we encourage children to make notes and share ideas in the best way for them.

## WHAT WE DID

We had spent some time getting to grips with being a resourceful learner. The children were encouraged to reflect on this using the heroes we had explored and then to record, in their scrapbook, what they felt were the most important features of being a resourceful learner. They were given complete freedom about how they would record, but were encouraged to make use of text, diagrams, pictures and examples of resourcefulness in action. One child chose to present her learning as a table split into the five learning capacities. Under each capacity she made notes and drew pictures to explain how, for example, she had used her imagination. Another child used subheadings to identify each learning capacity, under which he recorded the strategies for making links together with examples of when he had used them and when they had been used by a hero. Some children wrote a great deal, others needed support to get started and suggestions for possible layouts and what they felt was important.

## HOW IT DEVELOPED

The children now use their scrapbooks at least once a week. Sometimes this is teacher directed and follows on from learning where particular learning behaviours have been explored. At other times the children take the lead, taking their scrapbooks out and adding notes and ideas in lesson plenaries or in Golden Time. Some children have added a notes section at the back as an ongoing record that they refer to when they need to remind themselves of good learning strategies.

## IMPACT ON THE CHILDREN

The children love the learning scrapbooks and are very keen for them to continue. They use them to recap on strategies for learning and to support next steps. They feel they are most useful in providing success criteria for every part of their learning, leading to steps for success. They like the freedom to make decisions about what they will record and how. They feel the mixture of teacher direction and their own reflection and recording is best.

## OVER TO YOU

- Learning scrapbooks helped the children to become self-aware of their learning.
- How might you use this idea in your classroom?
- It might be useful to start with the learning walls and public prompts about heroes before moving to scrapbooks.
- When would you use scrapbooks — any time in the school day or at particular times?
- How might you structure your own learning scrapbook?
- What would be useful for the children to record?
- You could enable the children to interview everyday heroes about their learning strategies and how they use them in their everyday lives. Use scrapbooks to record notes and ideas.
- You might encourage the children to seek support and learning tips from their peers, adding Post-it® note comments about what they have noticed about their learning.