Learning a new Skill

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Personalised Stories to help children learn new skills!

Learning a new skill

This is Isla and Isla is very shy and doesn't like to talk. She lacks confidence. When she worked with her ELSA she worked on 'talking out loud' to just her ELSA. She did this by answering some questions and telling her about her family at home. She ***acquired*** a new skill by just talking to someone and not feeling too shy. She did a good job and felt pretty proud of herself.

Her ELSA told her that she needed to practise this new skill away from her until she was ***fluent***. This means lots of practice! Her ELSA asked her to try and talk to just one person in her class. She was a bit worried about that but she put a brave face on and she did it! She talked to Sophie and asked if she could play with her at playtime. She said yes and they had a great time! She felt so proud of herself when she told her ELSA at her next ELSA Session.

Isla was set a new target by her ELSA and that was to try and talk to some other children in her class. She was a bit worried about talking to more than one person but she managed to ***maintain*** her new skill by talking to 3 different people that week. Her ELSA reminded her that if you don't use your new skill then you will lose the skill and she didn't want to do that. She was super proud of herself when she told her ELSA at the next session about how she had talked to 3 different people in her class.

Isla got better and better at her skill of talking to people. With encouragement from her ELSA, she started to talk to lots of people in her class, not just 3! She was a bit of a chatterbox and was so happy and proud of herself. She became a bit of a gigglepot and was a bit of a joker. She realised she loved making people laugh. Her ELSA was so pleased and proud that she was using her skill more generally now and ***generalising*** that skill. That meant she was talking to different people and in different situations. She still needed a bit of help but she was very nearly at a stage where she didn't need her ELSA anymore.

In time Isla started using her 'talking' skill in lots of different situations all by herself. She was ***adapting*** her new skill. She would talk to the shopkeeper in the shops, she would chatter away to her next door neighbour, she would talk to different teachers in school and she even stood up in assembly and read out a poem she had written. Isla had well and truly learnt a new skill. She was so happy and confident with her new skill! She didn't need her ELSA anymore but she still liked to pop back and see her from time to time.

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Based on Haring and Eaton 1978 – The Learning Hierarchy

1

Isla says...

Acquire a new skill by learning this skill really well!

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2

Isla says...

Become **Fluent** in this new skill by practising this skill as much as you can.

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3

Isla says...

Try to keep using this skill at every opportunity and **maintaining** this skill. If you don't use it you will lose it!

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4

Isla says...

Before you know it you will be **generalising** this skill and using this skill in different situations perhaps with a bit of help

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5

Isla says...

Eventually you will be able to **adapt** this skill in different situations all by yourself! You are now an expert in this skill

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