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|  | Characteristics of learners in the early years  Reflecting on practices |

This resource provides a tool for teachers and curriculum leaders to focus on the characteristics of early years’ learners when making decisions about teaching, learning and assessment in their school and classroom contexts.

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| Characteristics of early years learners | Actions for each characteristic | Examples across your program |
| Prep children are members of families and communities | * engaging children based on their social, cultural and prior learning experiences * valuing what children bring to build on prior learning * connecting with families |  |
| Prep children are communicators and language users | * building on children’s home language * connecting it to the language of learning and school * providing opportunities for children to practice and apply new language |  |
| Prep children are capable of learning and have prior knowledge | * building on prior knowledge * building on children’s strengths * reflecting on new learning * providing opportunities for children to demonstrate knowledge in different ways |  |
| Prep children are capable of making choices and decisions | * including children in decision-making about their learning and environments * being transparent about the point of learning |  |
| Prep children are active learners | * meeting each child’s physical, social, emotional and cognitive needs * building on what children know and can do * organising for interactions, manipulating resources and use of multiple environments |  |
| Prep children are diverse | * engaging children socially, culturally and educationally * building on children’s capabilities * differentiating teaching and learning |  |