Developing Experts – Enquiry Skills

Symbol	Skill	Explanation
	Asking questions	Asking relevant questions that can be answered from their learning of scientific concepts. This may be through scientific enquiries, applying prior knowledge or research.
	Making predictions	Using prior knowledge to make informed suggestions on what may happen in a scientific enquiry.
	Setting up tests	Carefully following a method and using equipment accurately to carry out a scientific enquiry. The method may be designed by teachers or children themselves.
	Observing and measuring	Using the senses and taking measurements, using a range of equipment, to make observations about a scientific enquiry.
	Recording data, results and findings	Using tables, a variety of graphs, labelled diagrams and models to record observations, measurements, results and findings.
	Interpreting and communicating results	Using information, results and data to present findings, including oral and written explanations.
	Evaluating	Assessing the success of a scientific enquiry by evaluating the prediction, method and results and identifying further questions for enquiry.

Developing Experts – Enquiry Approaches

Symbol	Approach	Explanation
	Comparative / fair testing	Conducting a test that controls all but one variable to answer a scientific question.
	Research	Using information from a variety of sources to answer scientific questions.
	Observation over time	Observing changes that occur over a long or short period of time.
	Pattern-seeking	Identifying patterns and looking for relationships to make links between scientific concepts.
	Identifying, grouping and classifying	Using observations, data and findings to name, label and organise items in a variety of ways.
	Problem-solving	Applying prior scientific knowledge to solve problems and answer further questions.