

Critical Skills

These are classroom activities, underpinned by the ethos of valuing each other's talents. A key aspect of the approach is the design and use of challenges. As with the P4C methodology, critical skills can only be truly effective when the children have built a safe community that understands the value that each student brings to the group. Challenges can be paired, group or whole class. The students typically take on clear roles in any challenge, for example timekeeper or resources manager. Time plays a specific part in the activities by focusing the whole group on the completion of their task to specific assessment criteria established by the community. The students publicly exhibit their learning, for example through a poster or piece of role-play.

Critical Skills give students the opportunity to work with those peers they might not have chosen to work with and to value their talents. It builds confidence and self esteem within the individual and the group, providing opportunity for those less able to shine.

Relevant

Key Stage/s:

All