ELG02 – Understanding

Children follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. They answer ‘how’ and ‘why’ questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.

**Explanatory notes**

The child is able to understand and respond to a series of simple steps in order to complete a familiar or unfamiliar activity. The child is able to answer questions about their own activities or experiences and is able to demonstrate understanding by answering questions including ‘how’ and ‘why’ about stories and events.
October
Outside
M was standing at the steps that lead onto the balancing equipment. K came and said, "Why are you standing there?" M replied, "Because only one at a time is allowed on. That makes it safe!" M then moved across the beam, sliding on her tummy.

October
M had been away on holiday during half term. On return to school, she brought me a present and entered into conversation.

T: "Where did you go on holiday?" M; "I went to Menorca."
T: "How did you get there?" M; "We went to the aeroplane port."
T: Who did you go with? M; "Mummy and Daddy and J. Nani and Grandad didn’t come."
T: "What did you do when you were there?" M; "I had a little paddle in the sea."
J went right out! Because he’s big! There was a room with food in all day and you could get whatever you wanted!"

October – adult supported activity
The children were helping to plant daffodil bulbs. M said, "what do I have to do?"
Another child said, "You have to put gloves on and dig a hole. Then you have to put the thingy in the hole."
The adult said, "Yes, you have to put the bulb in the hole."
M took gloves from the trolley and put them on. She then took a trowel and began to dig a hole.

November
Outside adult led activity (role playing a bonfire party and keeping safe).
I asked, "what else do we need?"
M said, "we need a bucket to put the sparklers in." I said, "Please will you go inside and ask a grownup to get us a bucket?"
M went inside and returned with a small bucket. She said "We could only find a little one!"

December
Outside – adult supported activity
Over the weekend, all of the leaves had fallen from one of the trees. The children were helping me to sweep and collect the leaves into bin bags. M said, "What do we need to do?"
I said, "we need to sweep the leaves into piles, then we need to pick them up and put them into bags."
M said, "I’ll hold a bag open, then I can have a turn sweeping later!" She took turns with other children, taking on the different roles independently of support.

March
Workshop – child initiated
M had made a model using a cardboard box and bottle tops. J said "Wow, M! That’s good! How did you do that?"
M said, "I just got the glue and put that on first. Then I just got these and put them on the top! It’s a bit sticky!"

January
Outside
Over the weekend, all of the leaves had fallen from one of the trees. While working together to sweep, them I said, "Why do we need to sweep these leaves up?" M said, "Because they look all messy! And we might slip on them!"

UNDERSTANDING
Children can follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. They answer “how” and “why” questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.