

The Four Windows to Evaluate the Global Dimension in Existing planning

Critical Thinking

Does the planning provide opportunities for the children to ask and answer questions critically?

- These don't always need to be planned for but we should have considered opportunities when thinking about activities and resources.
- The best opportunities for critical thinking are often accidental.
- Planning to go local-global-local can help children recognize aspects of interdependency and think critically about them.
- What opportunity is there to take action? What are other people doing?
- Taking action shouldn't be seen as charity fund raising. It is important that children don't feel responsible for changing the world. An action could simply be a shift in thinking. (see separate guidance on 'taking action')

Geography Skills

Does the planning provide opportunities for the children develop their Geographical skills?

- Field work is a necessary component of any geography unit where children are expected to develop the skills of a geographer.
- Do we give children the chance to learn how to ask and answer geographical questions?
- Working in the field with the 'living geography' questions helps children ask good questions about a place and makes them think more deeply when answering them.

How can we give children a chance to find the global in the local?

People

Does the planning have a human element? When learning about people and place, does it consider the way that people use space in their environment?

How do we make places that we or our children have never visited come to life?

How do we use the experience of others to inform our understanding of what it's like to live elsewhere in the world?

- Think about the source of the resources you choose to use. Photos, websites, videos, stories and objects. What single story do they tell?
- Do we use a range of strategies, including active learning? e.g. drama, role play
- Can we help children to think critically about the resources we share?
- A place is nothing without the people who use it.

Story

Stories are important in our lives. They help us understand, clarify and explain. Does the planning make use of story?

- Story could be a hook or stimulus.
- There could be a narrative flowing through the whole plan.
- Story could introduce the people that live in a particular place and help us to understand how they use their space.
- Story could provide a stimulus for critical questioning.
- There is more than one way to live a life. Story can help us see that. *'There are many ways to live in the world' Fran Martin*

Doreen Massey (OU Emeritus Professor of Geography) said words to the effect that *'Space' is the meeting point of a thousand stories*. She wants us to think of spaces not just as physical space but as meeting places of people.