

# “I can do this”

Wednesday September 13th, 2017



This morning, Oliver found the overpants under the trolley, and decided he wanted to put some on. Oliver found a space on the mat and took his time figuring out which leg went into which hole. Once he had worked through that challenge, Oliver moved onto figuring out how to clip the top of the overalls in.

This whole process took Oliver a concerted amount of time and energy, however Oliver showed considerable determination and a quiet perseverance in facing this challenge. Oliver seemed pretty chuffed with himself when he had the outfit on, but that was not enough - next was his socks and shoes!!

## **What learning might I see happening for Oliver?**

I have often been blown away by the determination and perseverance Oliver uses when approaching any challenge, and the quiet way Oliver practises and masters new learning. These dispositions come in handy, especially with Oliver's developing self help skills. The look on his face says it all - this is important work, and I can do it all by myself. This shows me how strong Oliver's sense of belonging is, and how he is taking responsibility for himself. It reminds me of the importance of stepping back and allowing children to have a go. This learning is just as important and valued as the traditional academic learning.

## **How might we support this learning further for Oliver?**

I wonder where Oliver might take this learning? We will allow Oliver the opportunity to take care of himself more - dressing, etc. - perhaps involve him more during the care moments (mealtime, nappy changing and sleeptime). Of course, we will continue to be available to support him if and when he needs it, remembering that toddlers learn in partnership with the adults around them.

Added by: Anita Homewood.