

# TERRY TIGER'S TALE



Learning how  
to learn

By Emma Sproston



# TIGER Learning

## at Oxhey

The overall aim of **TIGER** learning is to support children's learning using the language of learning (metacognition eg resilient, managing distractions, being resourceful, persevering), in a child friendly format. In essence we are helping children learn how to learn.

Children naturally have an affinity with animals and so the staff at Oxhey have crafted a set of animal characters that are associated with important aspects of learning. Terry the tiger will introduce them to you.

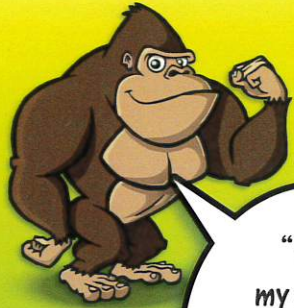


"Hello children, my name is Terry.  
I am only a young tiger cub who is learning how to learn. Would you like to meet my friends?  
They have showed me how to learn best by trying hard, ignoring distractions, learning together, being enthusiastic and being brave enough to take risks".



"Hello,  
my name is  
Travis the termite,  
I try hard".

"Hello,  
my name is  
Indi the iguana,  
I ignore  
distractions".



"Hello,  
my name is  
Gustav the gorilla,  
I work in a  
group".

"Hello,  
my name is  
Rita the racoon,  
I like taking  
risks".



"Hello,  
my name is  
Enid the emu,  
I am  
enthusiastic".



## TERRY TIGER'S TALE



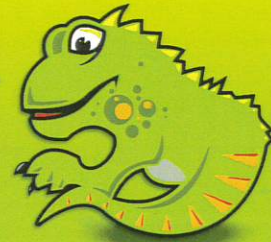
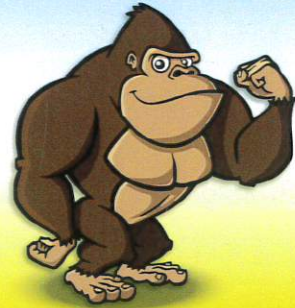
Once upon a time there lived a young tiger cub named Terry. He was a cheerful tiger and loved to play in the jungle all day long. The only problem was, he never really managed to ignore the distractions around him, or get along with other animals. He could never manage to stay enthusiastic about learning and wouldn't take risks.

Now Terry lived in an area full of wildlife and exotic plants. This was the perfect habitat for him. Although he would join in with some games, he refused to play 'tig' with other tiger cubs as he would quickly become bored and give up.

Terry's mum (the tigress) was the only family member he had because his beloved dad had died when Terry was just a newborn cub. This made him feel lonely and miserable at times.

Because Terry missed his dad, he could sometimes become angry and fall out with his friends. They all had their dads and Terry didn't think that was fair. His mum, the tigress, thought about ways to help him. She wanted him to:

**T**RY HARD,  
**I**GNORE DISTRACTIONS,  
**G**ET ALONG IN GROUPS, BE  
**E**NTHUSIASTIC AND TAKE  
**R**ISKS



One evening, his mum called Terry over and said, "Today I have been thinking about how you can become a better learner."

"What do you mean?" asked Terry.

"Well," continued his mum, "I thought I would send you to some of the animals here who have the skills to teach you lots of different things!"

"What kind of things?" asked Terry curiously.

"Go along and you'll soon find out. I think you should start with the termites," she announced.

So off he went to the termites who always tried hard and never gave up. They were busy making a shelter for the winter. When they heard footsteps they were afraid, but soon calmed down when they saw Terry.

Terry explained that his mum had sent him to learn how to try hard rather than give up too easily.

Travis, the leader of the termites, leapt up and sprinted towards Terry. "Well, Terry, I'm more than happy to teach you!" Travis had the biggest grin on his face and all his termite soldiers respected him. He also loved helping others! He encouraged Terry to help them build a large termite nest. Terry put in all the effort he could and soon enough it was completed. Terry felt proud of himself.



When he returned home, the tigress asked, "What have you learned from the termites?"

"I learned that I need to persevere, concentrate and try hard if I want to succeed," smiled Terry.

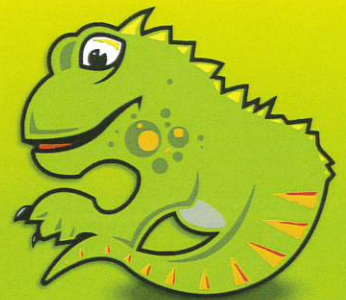
"I'm proud of you Terry. Now off to bed, you've got another trip tomorrow. You're going to visit the iguanas!" she announced.

She chose the iguanas because they always manage to ignore distractions and just carry on. Terry thought it would be easy to get the iguanas' attention but actually found it rather hard! They were so focused on watching out for tiny insects that they didn't even notice Terry.



Finally, Terry approached a cute baby iguana named Indi and told her that he wanted to learn how to ignore his distractions. "All you have to do is keep calm and focus. Ignore silly behaviour and if something or someone bothers you, tell an adult or someone you can trust," she told Terry in a gentle voice. "Parents and teachers can usually sort it out!" "I'll remember that!" replied Terry gratefully.

Back home Terry told his mum what he had learned. Again, she was extremely proud of Terry and rewarded him with a tasty dinner!

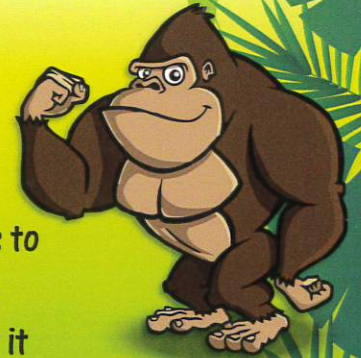




The next day Terry asked, "Where am I off to today mummy?"  
"It's good to see how you are keen to learn." said his mum.

"Well, today you are off to meet the gorillas because they are so effective at working together and getting along in groups. That is something you need help with."

So off he went, deep into the forest. When Terry eventually reached the gorillas' habitat, he was amazed at how they all sat together in huddles. Gustav, the leader greeted Terry, then introduced his family and friends. Some were grooming the baby gorillas, others were gathering bamboo, berries and insects for dinner, whilst some parents were using long leaves to create soft bedding for the babies. The elder gorillas were sitting with the children telling stories. They all seemed to be getting along so happily that it made Terry feel guilty about how he often fell out with his friends.



He wanted to be like the gorillas and learn to get along with everyone, so he promised himself that is what he would do from now on.

He said goodbye to the gorillas then returned home to tell his mum all about what he had learned.

That night all Terry could think about was where he would go next. Could it be to visit the old toad, the antelopes or the parrots?

The next morning, as the sun rose across the horizon and the jungle came to life, his mum said, "Tell me what you learnt from visiting the gorillas Terry." "I learned that all you have to do to get along in groups is to listen to each other, help others, be patient and kind," he responded.

As soon as Terry heard that he was to visit Enid the Emu next, he quickly washed his paws, ate breakfast and set off for his next lesson. Now Terry loved to learn new things, but easily got bored after a while. Enid, on the other hand, was always enthusiastic about things! She was the most cheerful and enthusiastic animal around and everyone loved being in her company. When Terry finally arrived at Enid's home, she was chatting away with her neighbours, the herons, telling them all about the magnificent rainbow that she'd seen the previous day and how wonderful nature is.

As soon as she noticed Terry, Enid called out to him and gave him a peck on the cheek - she greeted everyone with a peck-kiss. "I'd be delighted to help you!" smiled Enid when she heard about Terry's problem. "How do you stay enthusiastic all the time?" asked Terry. "I get bored so easily, so maybe you can help me?"

“Well, the world is full of so many wonderful things and there’s so much to learn that I just never get bored! Whenever I learn something new, or if I’m practising a skill, then I just think how lucky I am. It’s much better to be enthusiastic, because then you keep learning! Try it Terry and see how you get on.”

Terry thanked Enid and headed towards home.

On his way, he noticed a racoon dash across the path in front of him, whilst singing a sweet tune. He wished that he could be as brave as the racoon and sing in front of others. The racoon soon noticed Terry and introduced herself. “Hi, my name is Rita. What’s yours?”



“My name’s Terry and I really liked your singing. I wish I could sing like that, but I would be too nervous in front of an audience.”

“Everyone can sing Terry,” she replied. “You just need to practise and believe in yourself. Sometimes it’s important to take risks when you want to be better at something.”





**T**  
TERMITE

**TERMITES**  
try hard



**I**  
IGUANA

**IGUANAS**  
ignore distractions



**G**  
GORILLA

**GORILLAS**  
group workers



**E**  
EMU

**EMUS**  
enthusiastic



**R**  
RACCOON

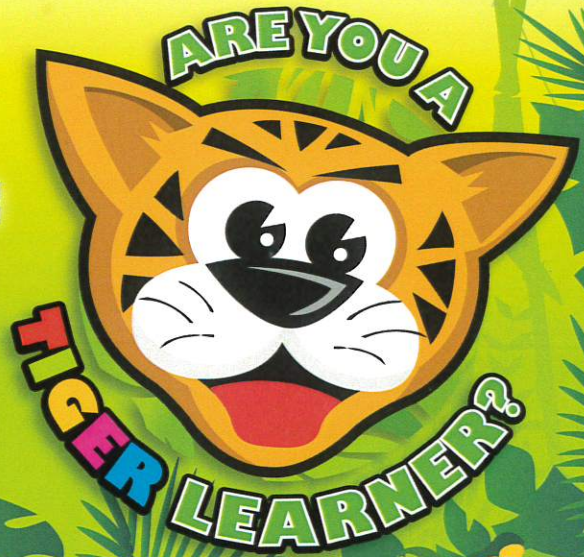
**RACCOONS**  
risk takers

Terry thought about all his adventures and the animals that he had visited over the past few days.

He realised that he had many talents, but by taking advice from Travis the termite, Indi the iguana, Gustav the gorilla, Enid the emu and Rita the racoon, he could be even better!

So from that day on Terry followed a new set of rules, he would always:

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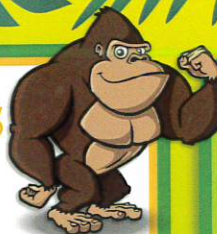
## TERMITES

We try new things. We like to rise to a challenge. We are active learners. We put in 100% effort when we practice. We learn from our mistakes and take no short cuts.



## GORILLAS

We work in groups and teams. We are a learning crew because we listen to our friends. We think of others, suggest ideas, and use skills for the team. We understand others and ask the RIGHT questions!



## IGUANAS

We have stickability, we don't give up. We tune in and persevere as we are resourceful. We get in the Learning Zone and concentrate.



## EMUS

We are motivated and curious and always ask questions to find out things. We are driven to succeed, we are interested and enjoy our learning. We learn from our mistakes.



Have you got the characteristics to be a TIGER learner?



## RACOONS

We are Fear Fighters. We solve problems by thinking. We are not worried about trying new things but we enjoy challenge!



**Oxhey First School**

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