

## Traffic Lights and Smiley Faces

The purpose of the 'traffic light system' is to provide a simple graphic means for children to record and communicate their self assessment of their learning against the shared intentions in a lesson or series of lessons.



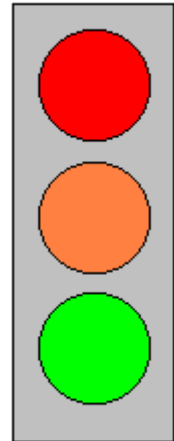
"I don't understand. I need more help and support."



"I understand most of it, or quite a lot, but I'm not completely sure. I could do with a little more help."



"Got it!"



Two suggestions about how this system might be used in practice:

1. Each child has a blank traffic light on card, and there are sets of coloured discs. They select and display the colour which best reflects their assessment of their own learning.
2. Each child is encouraged to draw and colour a circle on their work or in their book, before presenting it to the teacher. The self assessment will form part of the discussion and feedback.



Intended for younger children, the faces are used to encourage some self assessment. The children can indicate whether they are pleased with their learning and feeling happy about it, or whether they are unsure or worried about their work, and so feel a little sad.

One suggestion is that each child has a card disc with a smiley face on one side, and a sad face on the other. They are encouraged to show, face up, the side of the disc which best describes how they feel about their learning.