

Things to try

Whānau say

**“You can learn many things from children,
for example how much patience you have.”**



- **Tell kids what you want them to do, rather than what you don't want them to do.** “Please sit down when you're eating.”
- **Give reasons why you have a rule.** Talk about how their behaviour can affect others. “So you don't choke on your bread, and crumbs don't go everywhere.”
- **Explain what will happen if they break a rule.** Speak calmly and follow through with a consequence that is reasonable and related. “Okay, I'll put your food in the fridge until you're ready to sit down.”
- **Notice, praise and thank them when they do what you ask.** “Ka pai Ruby! Sitting and eating! Thank you!”



Whānau say

**“Āta kōrero – be clear in your instructions.
Āta whakarongo – listen carefully.”**



Children are born to learn

Let them explore

When pēpi touches, shakes, bangs, drops or puts things in their mouth they are learning about stuff.

They need to repeat things over and over again so their brain makes all the necessary connections needed for life-long learning.

Move the things you don't want tamariki to touch. Children learn best when they are allowed to explore safely.



Act quickly

When you see behaviour that is not safe, or that you don't like, be calm and act quickly. Distract them. If you keep giving warnings and then yell at them, they'll learn to wait until you start yelling before they respond.



How could you make your house more tamariki friendly?