

# Whānau say

Our tamaiti learns best when we talk slowly and clearly. We help them to understand and learn new kupu by describing what they are doing, when they are doing it. This is called parallel talk.

When we want to make sure our tamaiti is listening we get down on their level, kanohi ki te kanohi, and get their attention first before we kōrero. This is because sometimes they're just too busy playing to hear us.

When we introduce our tamaiti to new experiences we always kōrero with them about what's happening. Feeling safe is important for new learning.

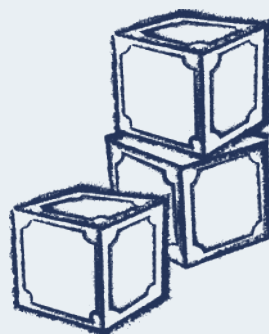


Our tamaiti loves playing rough and tumble games on the floor with us and this helps them start to learn about limits and boundaries.

We help them learn about emotions too by talking about how we're feeling, and the feelings they might be experiencing.

**"Look at you, you've taken your kope off all by yourself, kino kē koe!"**

We love it when we can see they feel good about what they've done.



If we speak te reo Māori, especially now when their brain is so open to learning languages, they'll understand and learn to speak it too.

We know that tamariki can learn more than one language at a time, it just needs us to consistently use it with them.

We take our tamaiti to have their ears checked regularly, because hearing well is so important for language development. Sometimes we'll play listening games just to make sure their brain is receiving all the messages from their taringa.

**Did you know that your taringa, ihu and korokoro are all connected? So when tamariki learn to blow their ihu, it helps keep them all clean and clear.**

Repeating names strengthens the connections in their brain. Tamariki then learn which names are associated with which people or places, especially those they see or visit often.

