

# Ngā tohu whānau

There are 6 things that promote a strong relationship between parents, whānau and their tamariki. In these months, they might look like this.

## Love and warmth

- Spend time with them, join in their play and follow their lead.
- Encourage and enjoy their new skills and independence.
- Give them opportunities to be creative, through music, movement and art activities.



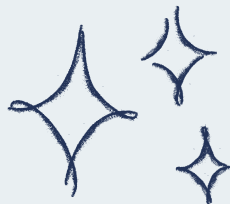
## Talking and listening



- Have conversations with them taking turns to whakarongo and kōrero – this lets them practise new words and sentences.
- Listen to questions and give simple and honest answers.
- Wait – give them time to respond to requests or questions.
- Give tamariki words for their feelings so they learn to express them rather than act them out.

## Guidance and understanding

- Let tamariki know what's happening next to help avoid frustration and challenging behaviour.
- Make a calm space at home for tamariki to use when they're feeling frustrated or need a break.
- Practise taking turns with tamariki so they learn how to take turns when they play with their friends.



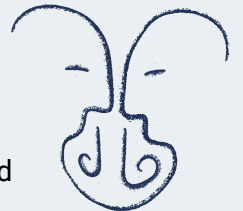
Tamariki are developing their movement skills and remembering how to do more things. They're starting to learn about processes and change. They learn best when we connect what they already know with what they are learning.

## Limits and boundaries



- Set rules that we all understand and agree to – this makes tamariki feel safe and secure.
- Have rules that help tamariki know what they can do, not a big list of what they shouldn't do.
- Keep one step ahead of them and look ahead to prevent challenges before they arise.

## Consistency and consequences



- Follow through consistently and calmly when rules aren't followed.
- Have consequences that are fair, relate to the rule and don't damage dignity – our tamaiti is learning!
- Do what you said you would do – keep our promises.

## A structured and secure world



- Take time to think about how life is for them as they learn, grow and face challenges and fears.
- Take it easy with toilet learning – wait until you see signs of readiness and let them practise without pressure or criticism.
- Encourage them to do things themselves – plate on the bench, clothes in the laundry, carry their own backpack.