

Ngā tohu whānau

Pēpi is becoming aware of their place in the world and in their whānau. They're able to communicate their needs and wants clearly, and want to try things by themselves.

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

- Pēpi will want to make some decisions now. Let pēpi practise choosing between two things.
- Spend time with pēpi, playing, talking, reading, singing and having fun together.
- Encourage pēpi when they try to do things on their own, like wash their face or feed themselves.

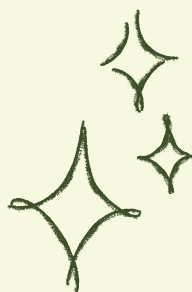


Talking and listening

- Remember that pēpi understands much more than they can say.
- Get down on the same level as pēpi, speak face to face and use clear language.
- Talk to pēpi about what they are doing.

Guidance and understanding

- Remember pēpi hasn't got the words to express strong feelings yet. Tantrums happen.
- Remember that pēpi does not understand other people's needs or feelings yet.
- Allow time, when we can, for pēpi to make their own decisions and do things their way.



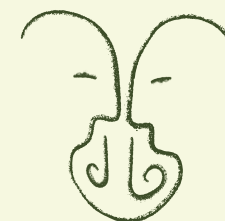
Limits and boundaries



- Have a few whānau rules that all kaitiaki in the whare agree with and follow.
- Stay calm and firm when pēpi is testing boundaries.
- Go shopping when pēpi is fed, rested and well.

Consistency and consequences

- Model the behaviour we want pēpi to copy.
- If it was kāo yesterday, it's still kāo today.
- Praise pēpi when they cooperate, "Thank you for letting me change your kope."
- Try to ignore negative behaviours – choose your battles.



A structured and secure world



- Remember a loving and trusting relationship is the best foundation we can give pēpi.
- Give simple choices and be patient – pēpi is learning and we're all their kaiako.
- Balance daily activities so there's a mixture of quiet and active times.