



O MATU KAPU

OUR WORDS

A COLLECTION OF
STUDENT WRITING

AUGUST 2025

AN OPEN LETTER

To Our Students, Coaches, Sponsors and Volunteers

This publication is a celebration of our RYALT students' inspiring and insightful writing. We are so proud to share this with you all and wish to thank you for all of your efforts.

As you read through the writing that has been shared here, please take time to reflect on the progress and dedication that has gone into producing this beautiful book.

The planning, the writing, the editing and the publishing are valuable skills that continue to improve throughout our lifelong literacy journey.

To our students who agreed to write so that we could publish this book... A huge thank you!

Your work will be read with pleasure by people all around New Zealand and our supporters and sponsors will enjoy reading your pieces and seeing the literacy skills you have acquired through your perseverance and hard work.

Coaches will be able to share your writing with new students to provide them with interesting reading material and help encourage them to follow in your footsteps to improve their literacy skills.

We thank all the volunteers who helped compile this book, particularly our editor, Amanda Livingston, for the many hours she has dedicated to our student writing books over the years.

And we are hugely grateful to the Adult Community Education Aotearoa (ACE) for the Festival of Learning Funding which made the printing and postage of the book possible.

NEVER STOP LEARNING, BECAUSE LIFE NEVER STOPS TEACHING.

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A TRAVEL STORY

by Casey

It has been quite difficult to choose the words and the story for the upcoming Student Book. This year we have been reading recipes and learning about travel in New Zealand, so I have decided to share some information about New Zealand.

New Zealand is made up of three islands, the North, the South and Stewart Island and they all have a variety of places to discover.

The South Island has seven regions – Marlborough, Nelson, Tasman, Canterbury, West Coast, Otago and Southland.

Marlborough is famous for wine and there are many wineries to visit. Nelson is very sunny and has excellent beaches and plenty of artists and art galleries.

The Tasman region is famous for the Abel Tasman National Park – you can go walking or kayaking in this area.

I live in Leeston, which is in Canterbury near the main city of Christchurch. You can catch a train from Christchurch across to the West Coast and arrive in Greymouth – it is very pretty, and you go through the countryside and the mountains.





Otago is a giant region and includes the city of Dunedin and Queenstown which is famous for bungee jumping and other curious activities. Southland is at the bottom of the South Island and includes Stewart Island. It can get chilly and windy but if you are fond of oysters, it is the place to go!



The North Island has nine regions including the capital city which is Wellington, and the largest city which is Auckland. Wellington is famous for big winds and Auckland is famous for the Sky Tower.

Northland is one of the warmest places in New Zealand and you can take the car to the top of the North Island to see Cape Reinga. Gisborne is the first place to see the sun in the world and the Bay of Plenty has many beaches to see.

My tutor Marg likes Hawkes Bay as there are lots of wineries and she enjoys choosing and drinking wine! The Waikato is a large region and includes places such as Hamilton and also Taupo which has a big lake.

Taranaki is on the West Coast of the North Island and has black sand beaches and a tall mountain, Mt Taranaki.

Manawatu is the last of the nine regions in the North Island – it has some big wind farms on the hills which you can see from far away.

So many places to visit – I can't wait to get started!!



A BRAVE DECISION

by M

It was a big and brave decision I made to leave my country and set up a new life in Auckland, the place that I'd never known before. I just got information about this country from the books I read and from my friends.

As you know, starting a new life in a new country is not easy, with a different culture and language and also the difficulties of finding a job. I have two children. They are in secondary and primary school. They also have trouble with English and I remembered they cried on the first day they went to school as they didn't understand what the teachers said. They felt nervous and stressed. After six months, they adapted to the new situation and they are happy to study in Auckland.

When my daughter finished intermediate school she even got a high achievement award, and about two weeks ago the school sent her to the Casio Mathex Competition. It made me so proud of her. My son also enjoyed joining the choir and doing a lot of sports at school.

My husband also got a job and finally after ten months in Auckland, with my coach's help giving me a very good recommendation, I found a good job.



THE BLUE LINE

by Kotahitanga Leah Edmonds



As I crept through the front door, walking towards my bedroom about to reach for the door handle, I heard my mother shout from the other side of the house.

“Isn’t it past your curfew Aroha?”

“Sorry, my, my phone died.” stuttered Aroha.

“Don’t lie to me Aroha, I saw your location, you were with Ronny.”

“Gees Zoe, didn’t think you were such a stalker” snapped Aroha.

“Don’t call me by my name, I’m your mother!” demanded Zoe.

“Just give me some space, please mum.”

Aroha pushed past Zoe with her hand clenched around something in her pocket, going towards the bathroom.

“Just give me some space, please mum.” pleaded Aroha

“I give up then, do whatever, just know you’re grounded.” sighed Zoe

Aroha went into the bathroom and closed and locked the door gently behind her. She pulled her hand out from her pocket, unclenched her fist and looked down at the pregnancy test.

FISHING IN THE KAIPARA HARBOUR

by John W

We live on a farm at the edge of the Kaipara Harbour, about half an hour west of Wellsford.

One day in late November my wife Ann and I went fishing at the back of the farm. It was a beautiful day. There wasn't a ripple on the water, no wind, nice and flat and calm.

We took our 12-foot six dinghy. We put burley inside a piece of PVC piping with holes in it and dropped it into the water. When you put burley out, the fish come to you.



We caught some big fish, snapper. It felt really good. Ann was happy because she caught the biggest one.

All of a sudden, everything went still for a split second. Then the dinghy spun round and was dragged backwards. If either of us had been standing up we would have got knocked off the boat. It was quite violent. I have never experienced anything like it in my life. The water was pouring over the back of the boat pulling it down. It took in a lot of water and scared the living daylights out of us.

It was a little time before I realised what was happening. It was a big shark, bigger than the dinghy. It had the burley rope in its jaws alright. We realised that it wasn't going to let go. It scared the bejesus out of us. To have something that big beneath you pulling the boat backwards with the anchor out is terrifying. If it had been in deeper water it may have dragged us down under.

Ann yelled "Cut the rope. Cut the rope. Cut the rope"

I pulled the slip knot to release the burley rope.

Luckily, I used that knot as it is easy to undo. It was also lucky that we had the burley deep on the bottom to attract the snapper. If we'd had it floating the shark may have jumped into the boat.

Afterwards it went very quiet again. We were up and gone.

I've been out fishing again in the harbour with my son in his bigger boat, but not in our smaller dinghy.

Apparently sharks are quite common in the Kaipara Harbour for about six weeks from November to January. They come into the harbour to look after their young. Then they go out to sea again leaving their young to fend for themselves.



MY KNOWLEDGE OF FOOD AND DIETS

by T



Starting a new food diet for some people isn't really the funniest nor is it the easiest thing for others. However, it's pretty important.

Making a diet for yourself can be very relevant to your physical wellbeing and whatnot.

Changing your current regular basis of eating food and limiting the amount of unhealthy drinks you consume everyday can have a positive effect on your body.

You'll feel more healthy and strong and you don't have to just change that. You can go from changing your diet to building yourself a little routine and starting to do other things like jogging around town, going to the gym, etc.

How I came to learn about changing food diets and building routines to become healthy mostly came from my own experience and picking up a few key things from school.

THE LOVE OF FOOD

by Ning



I'm a Chef. Cooking is not just my job. It's my love.

I chose this job because I always love delicious food and the creativity involved in preparing it.

Over the twenty years, I have worked in Chinese kitchens and Western kitchens – gaining experience in Banquet planning, new dish development and team management.

I find great satisfaction in completing important tasks, such as organising special events. Every successful service gives me a sense of pride and achievement.

For me, being a Chef is more than just a job. It's a lifelong journey of learning and sharing the joy of food.

GOAL SETTING

by Paul

How are you? My name is Paul. I have been living in my own house at the Supported Life Styles Hauraki Trust for 23 yrs and I have been in Thames 43 yrs.

I'm a Special Olympics indoor bowls/bocce player. I have got a part-time job. It is a Hauraki Herald paper run, and also I do volunteering work in the community.

I am a member of Totally Thames. I plan things by thorough Goal Setting and it does come true, but I do my own Plan, my own work, by looking after every one in The Community.



BILLY

by P

When I was about ten years old, I had a cat called Billy. He was black and white and skinny looking. He had a real tomcat face and a pointy tail. For a cat, he had a real good personality and I liked that.

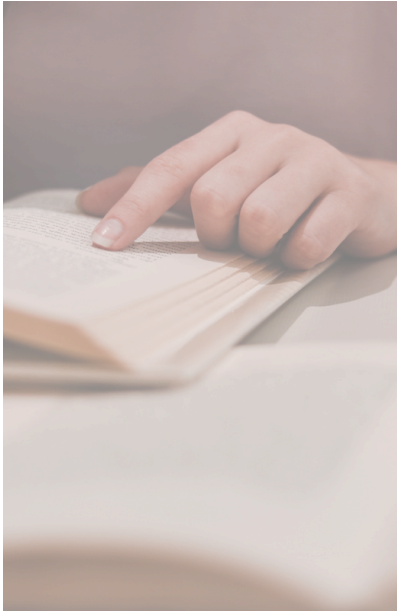
One of the things he would do was to jump on the table or bench and when you got him off, he would try to get back up. This would upset my mother. The only food he would eat was fresh meat and you had to cut it big. Otherwise he would not eat it.

Unfortunately, he got hit by a car and died and that was a sad day.



MY ENGLISH JOURNEY

by Iris



I started when I was 6 years old and English was compulsory at school, so everybody had to study it. Vietnamese and English are really different in terms of pronunciation, grammar and writing system. Vietnamese is a tonal language, which means changing the pitch of a word can completely change the meaning like “ma” (ghost), “má” (mom),

or mà” (but), and “mã” (can be a rooster or it can be the appearance).

English, on the other hand, doesn't use tones like that, though your voice can go up or down for questions or emphasis. Grammar-wise, both languages use subject verb order, but Vietnamese doesn't have complicated verb tenses like English (no past -ed). Also, Vietnamese uses extra marks (like á, à, ả, ã, ă, ã) to show tones, while English just uses the same alphabet without those symbols.

Our language reflects Vietnam's history. We first used Chinese characters under 1000 years of Chinese rule. Later, French missionaries created Quốc Ngữ using the Latin alphabet with tone marks. The French promoted it to reduce Chinese influence. Today, our letters look Western but the tones preserve our Vietnamese identity, a mix of Chinese roots and European practically.

For me I love Vietnamese more than English because it is my first language and I grew up with it, and Vietnamese is very diverse and unique. The second reason is that Vietnamese pronunciation is intuitive, words are spoken exactly as they are written, and the tonal marks provide clear guidance for accurate speech.

Becoming fluent in English is essential to me for both personal and professional reasons. As an immigrant student living in New Zealand, English is not just a subject, it is the key to fully participating in my new community. Professionally, my dream of becoming a doctor makes English mastery non-negotiable. The reason I want to become a doctor is so that I can help, and save people. I got influenced by doctors and nurses when I was so sick my body temperature was 41 degrees and I could have died. I had to stay in the hospital for nearly a month. So if I want to become a doctor in New Zealand I have to be able to understand the context about medicine.



OUR AMERICAN VISITOR

by M



My uncle is called Charlie. He stays with us when he comes to New Zealand. He usually cooks for us every day. Most of the time he likes baking cakes. He usually drinks grog every day with my father. He tells me to set the table every day. He is going back to America this afternoon. He might come back maybe June or July. When he was in Fiji, he bought some cashew nuts and he buys some Twisties when he comes to New Zealand. Charlie is saying that he misses us very much. Ursula is Charlie's sister. She lives in Fiji with her family.

She is an auntie now. She likes baking cakes and she likes selling cakes to the shops. She sold one cake for \$25. I hope she might come to stay with us. Charlie told me that I was a helpful girl when I was at home. Uncle Charlie has one son and one daughter. She is about 22 years old and the son is about 21 years old now. My uncle might see us again. We went to the airport to drop off Uncle Charlie. I don't know what time he left us. He usually comes to live with us for 4 months and we go shopping anywhere like Foodtown or the Warehouse.

HI BOWIE

by Rodney

Hi Bowie,

Well, I made it to Tonga. The heat hit me as soon as I walked off the plane. However, the view flying in was stunning. The first night here was so hard to sleep being so hot and I was woken by church bells at 5.30am!! At about 6am I could hear the church people singing. That was amazing. The water here is so beautiful. It's so blue and clear. All the roads are so rough though. It's definitely not like home. I hope one day I can bring you here and you get to see this place I come from.

Love you lots,

Poppa

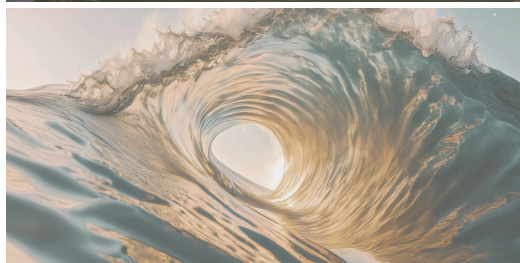
SURFING

by J

As I stand there looking out at these six to ten-foot waves, lost, Mayhem surfboard in hand, my mind is racing. Looking over at my surfing mate, Coveck, he starts to put on his leg rope, and I do the same.

We start paddling out in a rip that is taking us out the back, waves breaking all around us. After duck diving and much paddling, we finally made it out the back.

The waves are looking a lot more intimidating now, But I see one starting to form and start paddling on it. As I start to feel the wave push me forward, I pop up on my board. I start gliding down the wave as I get to the bottom, I lean down and grab the rail of my board and pull into the wave. Thinking I was about to lose my balance and fall, getting sucked up by the wave and swept over the falls. I take a deep breath and get slammed by the wave.



A SHORT STORY

by J



My rugby games are on Saturdays. I get up, get my gear ready, shower, and change.

I leave a bit early because we always warm up before the game. My last game was at the Ruatoki Club rooms and the weather was good. We played against Te Teko, and all of the locals were there.

I was wearing my black and green uniform, and I felt happy because we won. During the game I hurt my ankle, and now I can't play until it is healed.

After the game we showered, get changed and then have speeches inside the club.

FLASHPOINT

by David Smith



As my 8 year old self, I decided to make some fuel for my spaceship.

I was tuning the switch in my mind, trying to find my Albert Einstein moment. I figured out, that if I put a container of petrol in a lit fire that this will reach the flashpoint stage and tell me how to design my fuel for my spaceship.

The little voice inside my head said, “this could end with you getting third degree burns”, so I went to put the fire out when suddenly it reached flashpoint stage. There was one huge flash and then I flew!

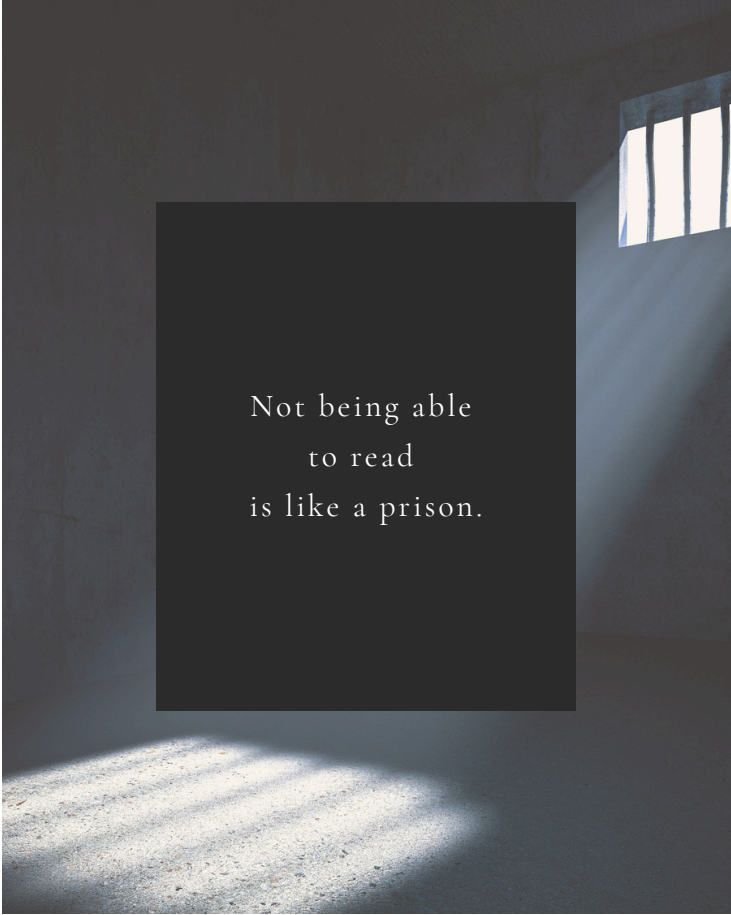
Through the air I went into the back wall of the house.

I ran up to the house splashed water on my face and when my sister asked, “what’s your problem?” at first, I said “nothing” and then calmly pointed outside and announced, “the backyard’s on fire.”

I passed out on the front lawn, all the neighbours said you’re lucky you passed out you were gonna get it. This big fire truck came down the road and apparently everyone saw the huge mushroom cloud overtake the sky right above our house.

PRISON

by E



Not being able
to read
is like a prison.

A FUNNY GAME

by S



I used to go to the kindly around the corner from Holeproof. When Dad came to pick us up, he used to see mum walking in the middle of the driveway and he would drive down and put his foot on the brake so he just missed mum by a smidgen. He used to play around and pretend to run mum over at home too. It was a game they both played together. I was told he used to do this all the time.

Another game was mum hanging washing on the line and Dad's playing Speedway rider. Riding his motorbike on the back lawn throwing the bike sideways and missing mum by a fraction.

MY WISH THAT CAME TRUE

by Binh Nguyen

I am Vietnamese. Because my country has tropical weather, we have two main seasons which are very wet from January to June and very dry for the remaining months. We do not have snow so seeing or touching snow is incredible. But I have always wished I could see snow.

My wish came true because I am now living in New Zealand. It was a miracle. One day last October, while I was on business I was stranded in Greymouth. Due to heavy snow falling on the routes back to my home in Christchurch, all the roads were closed. So, I had to stay another night in the hotel and I experienced a natural disaster. I was in despair because nobody knew when the roads would open. I prayed in my solitary room that the next day I would be back home to my children safely.

Fortunately, the weather improved in the morning and I was able to start my drive.

Astonished! I gasped at a magnificent view. I wondered if it was true or an illusion? Trees, mountains, rivers and houses were covered in a blanket of white. Snow!!! I shouted happily. When I drove to Authur Pass I stopped and played with snow as a baby experiences new things. I touched, smelled, jumped, and looked at my tracks in the snow. I lay down and became a snow angel. I also made snow balls and a snow man, as well as taking so many photos that my phone alarmed due to over data. I was extremely happy. Words cannot describe the feeling I felt that day. I have so many wonderful memories of that time. I have an obsession about snow.



Things we wish for will become true when we have strong beliefs.

THE GAME

by J

As I stand there in the changing rooms, my whole team around me, nerves start to form in my body. As I get ready to run out on the field, all the boys start to line up and everyone is amped up ready to go. The whistle sounds and we all start to run out, looking around me I start to get excited.

Everyone lines up on the half way ready for the kick off, the whistle sounds and everybody gets ready for the kick. Bang! The ball gets kicked up in the air, we all start to run keeping a close eye on the ball. We all come up to the line. I see one of the Tairua players calling mine as he catches the ball. I dive at him, tackling him to the ground. One of our players is right behind me and goes straight over the ball, we get a turnover and the ball gets fed out the back to our pod.

I stand back up and get back into position, looking forward I see a hole opening up and start calling for the ball. Our half looks up and sees an overlap, he passes it over to our first five who has a little run. I stay on his shoulder calling for a pass. He pops it off to me and I hit the gap. I get through the line looking around me for support. The fullback is right in front of me but I spot my winger in an open space. Looking over, I throw the pass, he catches it and runs in for the first try of the game.



THE SALEYARDS

by E



I met Dad out at the run off, and I had the sheep locked up in the pen ready when he arrived, and we loaded up 8 of the fattest sheep and took them to town - and two Wally Smiths - and after unloading them we went off to the sale yards. We looked around and ended up buying 10 more older lambs and took them home.

The next day, today, I met Dad at Farmlands and I jumped in with him, off to the saleyards to buy some cattle. So, I ended up bidding on some scruffy steers and got them for \$2.65 a kilo. About 34 in total.

This is the first time I have done everything for myself.

THE DOOR THAT SHOULDN'T EXIST

by Aaron



It was another day for Lucas as he went down the hallway looking around when something caught his eye. The principal was blocking up a door that Lucas had never seen before. As the day was ticking along, Lucas could not stop thinking about the door and why the principal was blocking it up. After school, he met up with his friends Jared, Bob, Patrick, Nathaniel, Kevin, Lucifer and Ollie. Lucas told them what the principal was doing and asked them if they were down to go into the door to see what was on the other side. They all said ok, but there was something wrong.

There was a man standing not far away but he was close enough to hear what they were saying. The man came over to the boys and said in a creepy voice, “if you go looking behind that door, there is something I would like you to know. Stick together, don’t get separated or you will be a gonner. If you see your friend when your friend is right next to you, then you better run. Don’t go in, you will be in there for life.” The boys looked away, then back but all that was there was a piece of paper that had writing and a dark figure. If you see him... Run!

SCHOOL OR HOME EDUCATION

by S



There are different ways of teaching our children for their development. We can teach either at home or at school. In this essay I am explaining why teaching children at school is better than teaching them at home.

One of the advantages of teaching children at home is one-to-one teaching, where students will get an opportunity to learn individually. That would not be possible at school. There is no risk of transfer of communicable disease from other students at home. And the environment of home is more hygienic than at school.

On the other hand, there are several advantages of teaching children at school as well. In school, they can learn from teachers as well as from friends. They can meet friends.

ONCE APON A TIME

by J

Once upon a time a long time ago there was a little girl called Abby. Abby had been told time and time again not to go down the end of the road by the forest.

Now, one day Abby was playing on her driveway and her mum was inside doing some work on the computer. One of Abby's toys rolled all the way down the driveway. Abby ran to save it before it went onto the road. She got to it just in time. Abby looked over at the forest. She knew she was not allowed down there, but Abby had been down there before and she thought she was fine. So Abby went down the end of the road and into the forest. Abby saw a butterfly. She followed it deep into the forest.

Abby stopped and looked around and saw smoke. She went towards it. She came to a little old house so she went up and knocked on the door. By this time Abby was lost and hungry. An old lady came to the door. Abby was crying and told the old lady she was lost.

The lady said for her to come in and have something to eat. Abby asked if, after she had something to eat, the lady would take her home? The lady agreed that would be a good idea, so the old lady went and made her something to eat.

By this time a man came home to the house. Abby asked who he was. The old lady said it was her partner. The old lady went into another room with the man but Abby couldn't hear what they were saying.

The old lady then came out of the room and said to Abby, "Should we take you home now?" Abby was very happy to be going home. She missed her mum. "OK, let's hop into the car and take you back to your Mum's!" So Abby hopped into the car, but the man drove. Abby didn't think that anything would go wrong. They had been driving for a long time and Abby was going to sleep. When she woke up she was in a dark room. It didn't look like her room.

Abby went to the door but it was locked. Abby started to cry. She knew this wasn't right. She went and sat on the bed, looked around for a way out, but this room had no windows. Abby sat on the bed and it felt like days before someone came into the room. When the old lady came into the room, she brought some food for Abby.

Abby thought to herself that she had to get out of there but didn't want them to get mad at her or hurt her in any way. It had been two weeks since she went missing and Abby had been waiting for the right time to get away. One night Abby couldn't get to sleep so she looked around the room for a way out. She came across a loose floorboard and she pulled and pulled until it popped up, but it made a loud noise and she heard footsteps so she placed a little rug over it and hopped back into bed.

Abby stayed in bed for about an hour and then got up and went back to the loose floorboard. Up it came and under it was a little box. She opened a box and inside it was a key and a piece of paper.

On the piece of paper was a drawing of the room with a secret door. Abby looked at the piece of paper then looked at the room she was in.

To her they looked the same so she went to where the secret door was and there was an old set of drawers over it she moved the drawers very quietly and there was the door. She used the key because the door was locked. It worked - with a bit of force the door opened. It was very dark inside but she had a candle that was lit.

She went into the tunnel. It was dark and dirty but Abby just wanted to get out of there. The tunnel was very long and she finally saw the end of the tunnel. The moon was shining very bright and her candle went out but she could see now because Abby was at the end. The tunnel came out at the end of a road so she ran and ran until she came to a car coming down the road. She hoped that the people in the car would help her and not hurt her.

The people in the car were very nice and took her to the police station. The police station helped her find her Mum and the mean people who took her away from her Mum. Abby was so happy to be at home with her Mum and she listened to what her Mum said and never left the house without her Mum knowing.



COMING TO NEW ZEALAND

by Rodrigo



1. What do you like about living in New Zealand? What do you find difficult about living here?

I want to live in New Zealand because it's a beautiful country, so many beautiful places, friendly people, free education, free hospital, you will have to pay a small fee.

2. Was it easy or difficult to make to make the move to New Zealand?

It's not easy to come to New Zealand, so many documents to pass in immigration & you need to make a big financial commitment.

3. How does it feel to be learning a new language?

For me it's so hard to learn a new language. It's not easy, because I'm not used to speaking English, but I'm willing to learn.

4. What is your hope for your family and yourself now that you are living here?

I want to improve myself to do work good, so I can achieve my dream for my family to give them a better life.

DOLPHINS

by R

As a little girl I always loved dolphins. I don't know why. Over the years I have collected different dolphin things like soft toys, jewellery, post cards and ornaments. My ultimate dream one day is to go swimming with dolphins.

At the age of 21 I got a dolphin tattoo on my ankle.

It did not turn out the way I wanted it to so one day I will save up enough money to get it fixed up and made to look how I want it to.





FROM MY ASSESSMENT

By Syeda

In my early childhood centre, I facilitated a treasure hunt activity for a group of tamariki aged 4 to 5 years. The activity was designed to integrate mathematics, technology, and physical education, providing a multi-faceted learning experience.

The children were tasked with finding hidden "treasures" around the playground by following a series of clues (numbers, symbols, pattern, counting steps). Each clue required them to solve simple mathematical problems, use technology tools like digital cameras to capture evidence, and engage in physical movement to reach each treasure.

My role in this activity was to support the tamariki by guiding them through the process, ensuring their engagement, and encouraging their problem-solving abilities.

For the mathematics aspect, the children worked on counting, measuring distances, and identifying patterns in the clues. For technology, they used the digital cameras to document their progress and gather clues, learning how to operate simple digital tools.

The physical education component involved the children physically moving around the space, climbing, running, and navigating obstacles to locate the treasures. This combination of learning areas helped to foster a holistic experience that catered to multiple aspects of their development.

This experience was significant for my teaching practice because it provided an opportunity to incorporate multiple subject areas—maths, technology, and physical education—into a fun and engaging activity.

The children were able to apply mathematical concepts in a practical, hands-on way while also gaining experience with technology tools and being physically active.

In terms of my professional philosophy, this activity aligns with the idea that teaching should be a collaborative process where children are encouraged to explore and problem-solve. The best learning environments for young children are those that support exploration, creativity, and critical thinking (Curtis et al.; 2015). This treasure hunt allowed tamariki to engage with the content areas in a way that was relevant to their lives and interests, which is a cornerstone of my approach to teaching.

The use of technology in this context is also important. Introducing technology at a young age helps children become familiar with the tools they will use throughout their lives (Fox-Turnbull, 2019). By using digital cameras to capture clues, the tamariki were not only learning about mathematics and physical activity but also engaging with technology in a practical, purposeful way.

Reflecting on this experience, I have reaffirmed the importance of creating integrated learning opportunities that allow children to explore multiple subject areas simultaneously. The treasure hunt highlighted how effectively maths, technology, and physical education can be combined in a meaningful and enjoyable way. It also reinforced my belief that learning should be active, hands-on, and connected to real-world experiences.

This experience also challenged me to think more about how I incorporate movement and physical education into my teaching. While I have always considered physical activity important, I now recognize even more the value of integrating it with cognitive tasks. Physical movement can enhance children's ability to process and engage with mathematical and technological concepts in a deeper way (MacDonald, 2015).

Looking ahead, I will continue to create learning experiences that encourage children to explore multiple areas of development, such as maths, technology, and physical education, through play. I will also think about ways to incorporate more technology in ways that are meaningful and purposeful, ensuring that the tools we use in the classroom are enhancing the children's learning. I am now even more committed to fostering an environment where tamariki are empowered to take an active role in their learning, use technology in creative ways, and engage in physical activities that support their overall development.

CHILDHOOD

by Regie

When I was young, I always helped my mother and father, and every weekend I went to the river with my friends. It was summer when I went to the river and I accidentally fell into the river and my mother had to bring me to the hospital.

When I was in the hospital I saw my classmate there and my family and I visited to the market. I found my cap under the bed. Every year we danced all night at the party. My mother sang beautiful songs to me.



CHRISTMAS

by Regie

Last Christmas my family and friends had a Christmas party in December. My friends and I had a barbecue. The smell through the air as we grilled, laughter as we drank our festive drinks, and dance was alive with everyone moving to the music.

The last of the evening was the raffle draw. As the tension built, my name was announced as the winner of the first prize. I won a ceiling fan that night. It was a night filled with joy, the celebration, and unforgettable memories.

FARM

by Regie



Wake up 6:00 am in the morning, Change my clothes, then start my bike. Going to the farm, then start to feed the cow heifers and old cows. Then draft three new mums and push to get them going to the cow shed and milk them.

Feed the calves. Set up some rail to the next paddocks. Clean the calf shed and feeder buckets, clean the bikes, grease the tractor and wagon, put some aluminium for dusting.

SAUDI ARABIA

by Regie



In 2007 to 2011 I worked in Saudi Arabia. I worked there four years and worked there on a dairy farm.

Now I work in New Zealand. After four months I go to the doctor to have a checkup and I saw my boss waving at me. I looked out the window and saw his son outside. He ran to come with me.

After my checkup I drove home and ate my lunch with my friends. Then I bought drinks for them. I looked to play basketball with my friends and I learned some tricks to play. I talked about travelling abroad to earn some money so I can buy a new house.

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