



Lion the Lamb

5th Mahuru/ September 2017

Nā Bex

Tēnā koutou whānau!

Bonnie-Mae, words cannot express how proud you have been about your van trip. On numerous occasions you have shared your love of lambs.

During these conversations you discovered that Kelly had an orphaned lamb named Lion at her house. Lion is only ten days old and needs feeding four times a day. You enthusiastically shared your knowledge of lambs, and through conversations it was decided that Kelly would bring her lamb to Barnardos everyday.



You quickly took on a leadership role of caring for Lion. You expressed concern that Lion did not have a Mum and had no milk to drink. Kelly explained that Lion had special milk powder that we would make and feed to her from the bottle. You and Kelly worked in cohesion; building a sense of mātauranga through making and warming the milk which would nourish the lamb.

As you were feeding Lion, I heard you explaining to your friends how you knew "lamb was happy" by the way Lion wriggled her tail while feeding. You already had this knowledge from watching Mr Tahi feed from his Mum at home. With your sense of mōhiotanga you developed deeper understandings which were evident in the way you became kaitiaki of Lion. You were very respectful by giving Lion space to sleep, demonstrated gentleness as you cared for her, and you expressed happiness through watching her joyous frolicking around the outdoor environment.





All these experiences have contributed to a sense of māramatanga (new knowledge) through caring for an orphaned animal; developing an empathic understanding of mana atua (well-being) and mana whenua (belonging). Recently we have noticed Lion starting to eat grass and this means her visits will soon come to an end. You understand and respect this, as you are aware that Lion needs to live in a paddock. However, you have proudly told everyone that you know how to plan and organise successful van trips - so we can rely on you to plan a trip to Kelly's house to visit Lion sometime soon!

Bonnie-Mae, I look forward to hearing all about your next venture.

Whānau Voices:

David (Dad): It's great to learn that animals have a joy in life, just as we do.

Dale (Nana): Bon - you have your new boots on? They look a bit furry/ woolly like Lion. You guys at Barnardos do such an awesome job! !!!

Kym (Kaiako): Oh my goodness Bonnie-Mae. You have loved having Lion here and being able to share your knowledge and experiences from your lambs at home.

Kate (Mum): Awww my sweet girl, you are such a wonderful caretaker for wee lion, such a wonderful example of your caring and empathic nature. xxx

