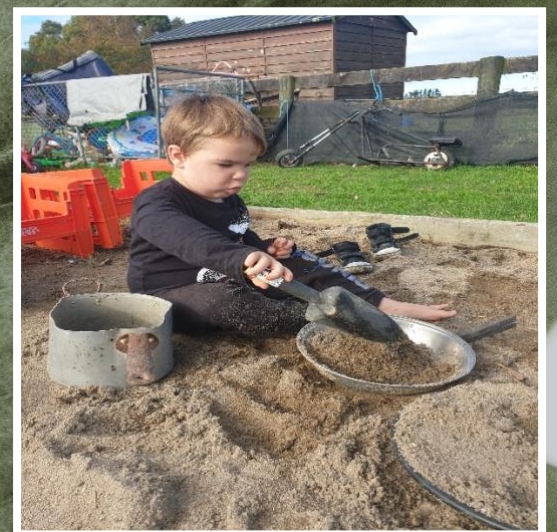# Belonging

APRIL 2020

Mum, a hero, an essential worker with Biosecurity Surveillance. Educator Julie, a hero. Together these two special adults committed to Lukah and the wider community during Covid Lockdown 2020. A normal weekly routine is leaving mum and discovering a world of exploration and new experiences with Julie. Having developed a close relationship with Julie, one that is created uniquely because Lukah gets to spend one on one time, interacting with her and the innovative classroom, the farm! Lukah appears to be at peace and demonstrate confidence in this setting and the outdoor scenery aids in developing his self-esteem and sense of belonging when away from home. Lukah is 3 yrs old and can express himself in many ways to show his adults how it is he is coping. With Mum working during lockdown, Lukah did shorter days and had days where he too, could stay home, those days were not so busy for Mum, so as a family spent this time together at home. When visiting Julies, Lukah goes happy, and eager for each day, its often different and he really is enthusiastic about the outdoors and his needs and interests are fostered by Julie who is always practising best practice at the heart of all she provides.

A huge consideration for all, going to care when the rest of the country was made to stay home. Will my child be safe? A child's emotions fluctuate and are dependant on that sense of belonging. Being in care over lockdown needed to represent 'normal' it was Lukah's 'normal' , Julie supported Lukah's growing interests in climbing and making pies in the sandpit and when he engaged in challenges , Julie enabled Lukah as he took safe risks, it was important to feel familiar to home. It was evident through observation that Lukah was content. Covid took over, but it did not compromise Lukahs' sense of belonging, the adults adapted to the changes for Lukah, familiar, unhurried and regular routines where he was better able to anticipate the what next…..

Creators
HOMEBASED CHILDCARE

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