

Cooperation at its finest. Benji and Francesca are masters at it.

Lately, I have observed the magic of a new friendship forming. Benji and Francesca have noticed that they both love the same things. They had been playing harmoniously all day, when Francesca called out to me to watch her and Benji's trick. I can tell you that it is magnificent! It requires a certain amount of communication, timing and mutual trust that left me feeling that I had witnessed something quite special.

First, there is a conversation of getting into position, and checking that they each are ready. This is done completely without words. Then, the timing is critical as Benji launches the swing, and Francesca leaps onto his legs. It is a magnificent trick, perfectly balanced and timed and one that can only be done with two people completely in tune with each other.



My thoughts on the learning for Francesca and Benji.

The connection and trust between Francesca and Benji to perform this trick really was impressive. It epitomises both of their personalities so well, as they are so skilful at thinking about how their actions may impact on other people. This is an intricate and complex skill that takes practice for certain, but also a willingness to actively cooperate with friends. ***Where could this learning lead to for Francesca and Benji?*** This ability to relate to people and cooperate makes endless opportunities to be involved in play that give a sense of joy, belonging and wellbeing. Essential qualities for a fulfilling life as Francesca and Benji continue to grow and learn. They have very exciting and rewarding lives ahead of them!

Arohanui, Tanya.



