

The Atua with MY Dad!



What happened? / Ngā te aha?

At the beginning of the week Moko, I watched you quietly sitting on your Dad's lap, fascinated as he told you the karakia of the Atua. A father passing his knowledge down to his son was clearly a very special moment shared between the two of you!

Later on in the week Moko, I was so touched to see you pointing at the pictures of the Atua, as you attempted to tell Mila the same karakia - just like your Dad had to you.



What learning was happening? / E aha te matauranga kei te ako?

Ui and Waru, as well as the benefits to Moko's cognitive learning and development, this experience clearly highlights how his inner sense of belonging, wellbeing and identity are empowered through caring and respectful interactions with his loved ones. Moko sparkled with delight and pride as links between important aspects of his life were connected - his Māori culture, whānau and kindergarten environment. This corresponds with both the Family & Community/Whānau Tangata and Empowerment/Whakamana Principles of Aotearoa's early childhood curriculum document 'Te Whāriki'.

What I especially enjoy about this story, is Moko's confidence in communicating both verbally and non-verbally to Mila what he had just learnt from you Ui. In essence, Moko felt that he was in a position to make a contribution to the well-being of others. Ka pai tō mahi!

Future opportunities / Ngā taumata

Ui and Waru, the skills and knowledge that you both possess of the Māori culture are a true gift that we hope you will continue to share with Moko and the rest of the tamariki. Whānau are welcome and encouraged to spend time in Pōtiki to ensure that precious moments like these continue to occur. In doing so, I am sure that Moko's confidence and sense of identity will continue to grow and he will be empowered with the belief that his own contributions to the centre are enjoyed and valued.

Learning tags:

Verbal communication Being part of their centre Communication with others Being involved Communication - Mana Reo

Connecting Emotional well-being Non-verbal communication Connecting/linking their worlds

Story date: 1 Jul 2015. Added by: Lisa Watkins.