

# *Tōku Mātauranga Oranga-My Journey In Learning At Taitoko Kindergarten*



**Le'arna**

*Le'arna has been part of Taitoko Kindergarten well before she was officially on our roll. Her mother attended here and is now our cook, and her Nanny Daveida is our treasured Kaimahi.*

*Le'arna use to come in as a pepe and join in with our weekly playgroup.*

*Le'arna has older siblings and cousins at Taitoko School and has been regularly attending school visits with her mum Maria supporting her.*

*Le'arna has had a very positive learning journey and her calm, caring, kind personality is one that we all appreciate as she explored her own learning and supported other tamariki with their learning.*

*Le'arna has many strengths and dispositions that will guide her in her next learning journey. These strengths and dispositions include her ability to concentrate, work independently, show manaakitanga, demonstrate kaiārahi; skills of being a leader and mentor to teina, problem solve and have fun. Her learning style is supported by kaiako offering her experiences that reflect her quiet whakaute/respect for others.*

*We wish Le'arna and her whānau all the best as they embark on the many learning opportunities provided within the Primary School Curriculum at Taitoko School.*

*From The Kaiako at Taitoko Kindergarten.*

**COPY**



# Taitoko Kindergarten/Whanau Tangata Centre

My Name:

Le'arna

My Birthday:

19th April 2008

Mum - Marla.  
Dad - Manu.  
Sisters - Wevonika &  
Raiha.  
Cats - Misty & Magic.

My family/whanau are:

Cuddles.  
Joking with her to make  
her laugh.  
Singing.

When I am sad what makes me feel happy?

Nanny Daveida.  
Koro Tane. Auntie Netake.  
Uncle Jarrod & Clinton.  
Cousins Anahera, Tamiyah &  
have.

Other important people in my life:

Quiet, Helpful, Shy.  
Good friend to others.

Other information I'd like you to know:

From my whanau

What I like about my child:

Caring & helpful.

What I would like my child to learn at School:

To interact with others in  
the classroom. learn &  
enjoy her time at school.  
Be respectful.



# A Letter From Le'arna

**Dear Teacher**

**I am starting Taitoko School in May 2013. My birthday is April the 19th. I will be 5.**

**I like to help look after Levē my cousin. At school I play on the park, we got our own books, and when we finish we get a book or a puzzle.**



**From**

Le'arna





TE WHÄRIKI	KEY COMPETENCIES	SIGNIFICANT STORIES	ANNOTATION OF STORIES
Contributing	Relating to others	September 2011- Lyrics With Le'arna: This Nga Paki Ako shows Le'arna being supported to join a group by her kaiako recognizing Le'arna's attentions. The kaiako then encourages her to take turns, enjoy her friends company and develops her confidence to be part of a group. March 2013-Kaiārahi- A Leader, Mentor to our Friends: This Nga Paki Ako demonstrates Le'arna's growth of dispositions and her confidence to interact with groups of children. Le'arna has become a well-respected tuakana/leader of the Kindergarten and can confidently guide others by gently encouraging them to take turns and make the right choices. She demonstrates daily manaakitanga/caring and kindness.	
Well-being	Self Management	January 2012-Whānau Tangata Le'arna is a capable learner who can manage her own self. In this story she demonstrates her skills of caring for the well-being of her younger cousin, by taking tataki/responsibility to giving him his morning kai.	
Belonging	Participating & Contributing	March 2010-Remember When? March 2011-A Visit From my Sister, June 2012-Matariki These Nga Paki Ako show Le'arna's strong connection to our Kindergarten and her special connection to her whānau. Being part of our Kindergarten and having whānau that have been before and are currently activity involved in what we do provides Le'arna with a feeling of awhi; embraced in support and love	
Exploration	Thinking	July 2012-A Repeating Pattern with the Blocks Making your own decisions and problem solving are skills that aid in thinking and exploration. Le'arna demonstrated this learning as she repeated a pattern with blocks and tested out her thinking by changing the blocks to make them more stable, thus creating a new strategy to support her thinking.	
Communication	Using language, symbols and texts	September 2012- Le'arna Prints her Name Le'arna shows us her ability to work independently as she finishes a piece of word by writing her name on it. This indicates she has self-knowledge of the letters of her name and understands the order they re-present spells her name.	



# Lyrics with Le'arna!



Le'arna, I was so impressed today when you joined in with a group of children to sing "5 cream buns in the baker's shop". I see from your profile that you are well on your way to forming strong relationships with your friends. They all wanted you to join in and when you did, they were very pleased you were part of the group.

Kaea, Alyssa, Ihakara, Missy and I were playing and I could see that you were wanting to also so I asked if you wanted to come over and join, and so you did, and you sang along with us. We sang it several times and you had the confidence to sing, take a cream bun and run away! What a clever learner you are—you also knew what number came next! Ka pai!



It was great to see you feeling confident in a group with your friends, using your turn-taking skills and enjoying your friends company. I wonder what other activities you will get up to with your friends in the future???



Vicki, Student Teacher  
26 September 2011

**Ka pai o mahi**  
(You've done great work!)

***Te Whariki Contribution Mana Tangata  
Goal 3:***

***Children experience an environment  
where they are encouraged  
to learn with and alongside others.***





## Kaiārahi-A Leader, Mentor To Our Friends

21 March 2013

Le'arna as I thought about writing this Nga Paki Ako for you, I took some time to reflect on the type of person you are; a person who is kind, caring, and respectful. These words are words that I associate with you as I have had the honour of being your kaiako and have observed these dispositions in action. I feel Le'arna you are a person who gives so much to others and expects little in return; an emerging leader.

*Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi; with your basket and my basket the people will live.*

This Maōri proverb talks about co-operation and the combination of resources to get ahead.

Today I saw this proverb in action as you guided the teina around you to take turns on the swing bar. Le'arna, your kind, caring and respectful personality encouraged your friends around you to co-operate as you showed them your skills of being a tuakana; a leader who modelled and kindly reminded her friends to take turns.

Being an empowered, holistic, learner who becomes involved in responsive and reciprocal relationships and has a strong whānau tangata connection shows me Le'arna you are a person who demonstrates manaakitanga; caring and kindness.

Le'arna I am also so proud of you as your Kaiako at their planning meeting have been talking about encouraging tamariki to take turns, and today you helped your friends to achieve this. Kia ora.

Kaiako-Tania





Le'arna, its great that you like and enjoy spending time with Leve at kindergarten. As Tania wrote in her story Leve enjoys your company and his face lights up with delight when he sees you. He is now communicating with you and he now looks around for you and calls out in his big loud voice "Lee Lee". It is as if to say come on Lerna what are we going to do next?

Today you took responsibility/*tataki* for Leve at morning tea time. He wanted his yoghurt so you decided to help him. You sat quietly beside him and started to feed him his yoghurt. I noticed that you waited patiently until he was finished then you would feed him another mouthful of yoghurt. Le'arna you persevered with Leve until he had eaten all his yoghurt. He was then ready to play again. He *kaiawhina pai koel* You're such a great helper Le'arna! Its great that you are using past knowledge/*Maturanga o mua* and skills to help care for your little cousin at kindergarten. When I talk to Nanny, she tells me that when you are with her, you help look after him and keep on eye on him. Your teachers have also observed you sharing your caring skills by taking responsibility for younger tamariki and pepe at kindergarten. Wow Le'arna you are becoming a leader.

You have often displayed being persistent and *aro*/taking responsibility in other stories that are in your profile. Ka pai, you are challenging yourself as a learner Le'arna. We will be mindful of where this will take you next.





# Remember When?



## Le'arna, our Playgroup Pepe



Le'arna we remember when you were just a little pepe and your Mum and Nanny Daveida used to bring you to Playgroup. You were such a cuddly little girl and we loved it when you came along with your whanau. Your big sister Raiha used to pop in for a cuddle because she could see you through the window when she was playing at kindergarten.

Now Le'arna you are a big kindergarten girl yourself and we love having you come and play with the dough, do some puzzles and some Art Work . I think you are going to be just as creative as your big sisters and cousins were before you.

Sometimes your Mum stays with you and now and then your Dad Manu takes some time off work and comes in with you.

Do you know Le'Arna your Nanny told me that a long time ago she used to bring your Mum Maria to Taitoko Kindergarten! How about that? You are following in your Mother's footsteps! Your whanau has very strong links with our Kindergarten and it is just awesome that you are part of our kindergarten tangata.

Caryll

March 2011



# A Visit From My Sister



**March 2017**

Le'arna, how cool it is that you get to see your big sister Raiha when she comes over to kindergarten with Mr. Sanderson's class for "Open Gate Day"

When I saw you two you were having a lovely time doing some Art Work together, and it was good to see the two of you working together so happily. Aren't you just so lucky to have your whānau so close?

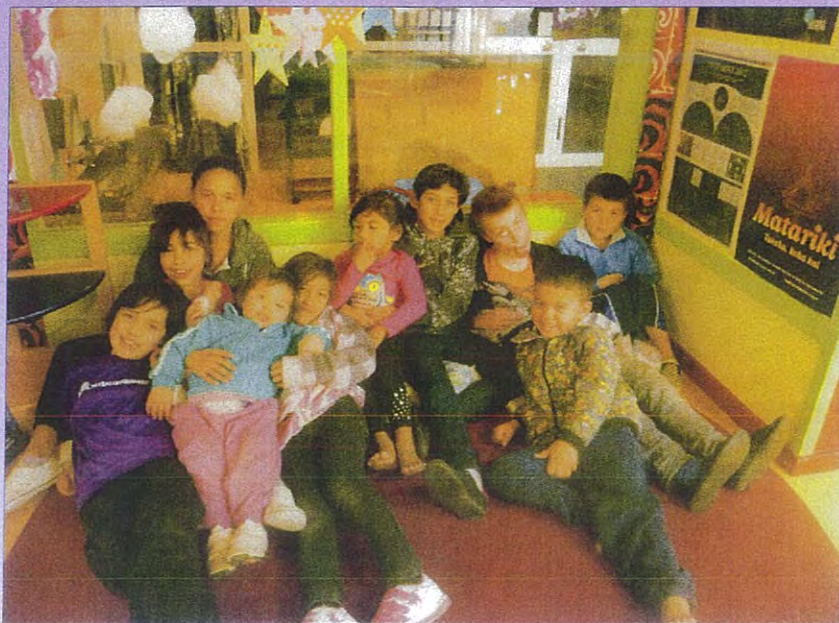
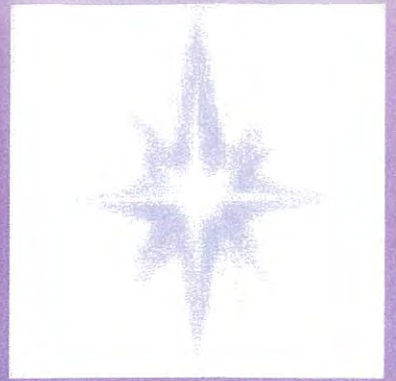
Nanny Daveida is often working in our kitchen, Mum and Dad and Uncle Clint pop in often as well,

What a nice lot of whānau stories you are getting in your profile book now. You will be able to get your book and look through it when you are feeling a bit lonely, and there will be lots of photos of your whānau smiling out at you.

Caryll



# Matariki



## Le'arna

Le'arna it was so cool to have your whānau come and take part in our Matariki celebration tonight.

Your Mum came and helped Kirstie and Moana with preparing the Boil Up and Dough Boys, and of course your Nan Daveida made the Rewena Bread which was just so yum. Wirikinika and Raiha came along as well, and I could see that they enjoyed being "kindy girls" again.

Le'arna you and your whānau are such a big part of our kindergarten and we never forget that once your Mum was a Taitoko Kindergarten girl- just like you and your sisters!

It was a special celebration tonight and thank you for being a part of it.

Tēnā rawa atu koe

Many Thanks Le'arna

Kaiako: Caryll



# A Repeating Pattern with the Blocks

16th July 2012

Le'arna I found you busily working away with the blocks. You were using two different shapes. I asked you if you knew what shape they were and you said 'square and rectangle'. Tino pai, you know your shapes. I spoke with your Nan and she also is amazed at how clever you are with shapes.

The way you made your tower by putting one square down and then one rectangle on top is called a repeating pattern. You were thinking and concentrating while choosing which block to use next.

You stood beside the finished block tower and it was a little wobbly, so you started again and changed the order of the blocks around. You are a great problem solver Le'arna. By changing the blocks you were creating an idea and trying out a new strategy. Through changing and discovering ideas you are making your learning meaningful and personal to you. Caryll said in her learning story that you are a 'quiet achiever' and I would have to agree.

Me aha ina ka... /What would happen if... you added another shape next time.

## EMPOWERMENT—WHAKAMANA

Le'arna by playing with the blocks today you were using your own ideas to develop knowledge and skills in the area of mathematics. You made a repeating pattern with the blocks and identified the shapes of the blocks. You were making your own decisions and judgment as to how high your tower could go and problem solving/Wananga haere when it became unstable.





# Le'arna prints her name



September 2012

Today I noticed that Le'arna you were interested in constructing a picture with some beautiful angels. I saw you cut out the angels with some scissors and paste them onto some paper. When this wonderful construction was completed I saw you print your name on the top left hand corner. I was so impressed with your mahi that I took a photo of you and your picture. I can see that working independently is important to you as you are able to finish all your mahi without help from anyone. Le'arna you are taking responsibility and ownership for your own learning. What a wonderful ability you have for being resourceful and setting goals for yourself.

I have been looking back through your pukapuka mahi and your previous mahi shows that you are able to express yourself creatively and that you show great concentration in all your mahi. This ability and strength to use your gifts of creativity in your paintings and constructions is evident and shows how you are extending yourself in each new endeavour.

Ka wani ke Le'arna. A great effort that is rewarded with self knowledge and a continuing ability to obtain new skills while you are at play.

Kaiako Jan Scott

