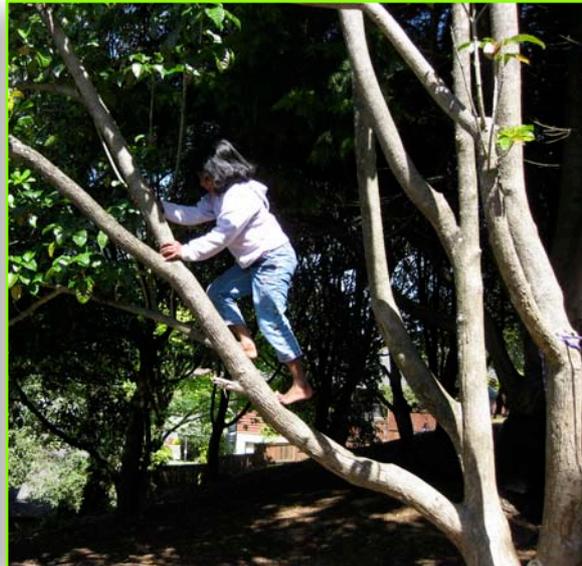


6.11.09
Karen

"Come and Watch Me"

It was about half way through the morning session at Bush Kindergarten when Suvatiga came and said "Karen, come and watch me." I followed with anticipation and wondered what Suvatiga wanted to share. Suvatiga led me to the tree that the commando rope was set up on. Suvatiga began to climb the tree and in no time was at the top and moving along the branch!

Suvatiga edged her way further and further along the branch and as she moved you could see she was testing the strength of the branch to judge how far she was going to go.



Suvatiga decided when to stop and then was quite happy hanging out in the tree, chatting to me and her friends from a great height! I asked Suvatiga if she climbed trees at home and she said "No". Followed up with "Have you climbed a tree before?" "No", said Suvatiga. "Is this the very first tree you have climbed?" "Yes" said Suvatiga. Wow, Suvatiga you are an amazing explorer! Suvatiga beamed from ear to ear, absolutely glowing with pride!





After a while Suvatiga decided to climb down the tree and edged her way back along the branch and down the trunk of the tree. Suvatiga moved with such confidence and when she was happy with the position of her feet she would move her foot further down, reaching out and feeling with her feet as she went.

Ivan had noticed Suvatiga up the tree and once Suvatiga was back on the ground Ivan suggested they climbed the tree again. The two friends scaled the tree in no time! Ivan decided he was a sleeping koala while Suvatiga enjoyed "hanging out" in the tree with her friend.



DVD

What Learning do I think is happening for Suvatiga?

I was blown away with Suvatiga's sense of adventure and her attitude to trying something new. As I watched Suvatiga climbing, I noticed that she had a real sense of herself as a capable and confident learner, a learner who has the courage to take calculated risks and explore new possibilities. This tells me Suvatiga is developing deep learning dispositions that will support her on her life long learning journey. Suvatiga is a capable climber and I wonder if bush kindergarten hadn't begun, would we have discovered this interest.

Suvatiga is a risk taker. Learning to take calculated risks in a safe and caring environment will support Suvatiga as she explores the wider world. A risk taker is a confident learner who watches, observes, collects information and then makes a decision. It is great to see Suvatiga setting her own challenges. She was totally focused on this task for quite some time. Suvatiga was proud of her achievement and enjoyed her success. I think we will have many more exciting adventures at kindergarten. I wonder what will happen next week at Bush Kindergarten?

Possibilities and Opportunities

The possibilities and opportunities are endless as Suvatiga continues to direct her own learning and set her own tasks. I get the feeling Suvatiga will take on a leadership role and her work will inspire her friends and offer possibilities for their learning.