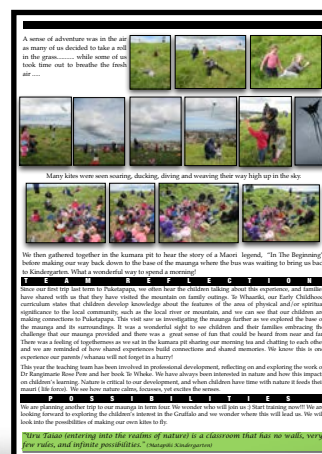


Documenting Shared Experiences: *Collaborative Community Stories*

A Collaborative Community Story documents group experiences, trips and celebrations shared by the kindergarten community.

What is a Collaborative Community Story?

- A narrative story to document a shared experience. This contributes to the child's 'hard copy' portfolio.
- Includes a teaching team reflection
- Includes photos of individual children
- May include children's voices (through oral and visual literacy)
- May include parent/whānau voices
- May include movie footage/DVD
- It is also shared on each child's e-portfolio



Puketapapa

20TH NOVEMBER 2014

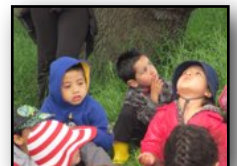


Our third trip to our maunga, Puketapapa

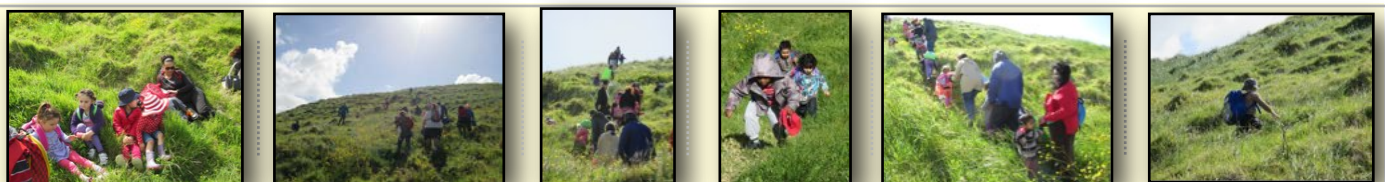
The date was marked on the calendar for our third trip to Puketapapa and there had been much discussion around what and who we might see on our maunga. We were treated to a fine spring morning as we gathered at kindergarten and waited for the bus to arrive. We boarded the bus and in no time at all we had reached our destination. There was an air of excitement as we began our journey around the base of the mountain. The grass had grown very long and we pushed our way through, making a track for those behind us.



It wasn't long before we reached the grove of trees, a perfect spot for a story, and what better story to listen to than "The Gruffalo's Child." Some of us were sure we had seen the Gruffalo child's footprints and some of us kept an eye out for the mouse.



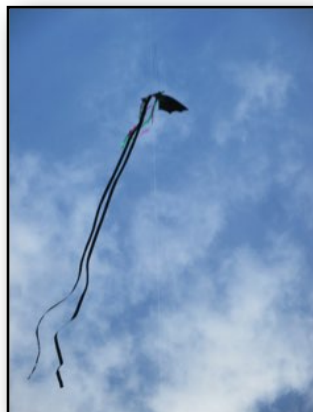
Alas, no mouse or Gruffalo's child could be found and so we continued on our journey. Around the other side of the maunga we tramped until we reached the perfect spot for a rest and a chance to gather our breath as we prepared for the trek to the top.



There were many high 5's and congratulations as we climbed to the top of the maunga, and made our way to the kumara pit for our morning tea and a well deserved rest!



With our tummies full and our bodies re-energised, some of us chose to fly the kites while some of us played in the long grass.



All too soon our time on the maunga was coming to an end, but there was one more surprise in store. This time we climbed back down the maunga, and this was a great opportunity for some of us to roll or slide down! What a fun way to end our adventure!



Teaching Team Reflection

It was exciting to see the children and parents so enthusiastic to join in this third adventure to our maunga. We often talk to our children about working as a team and this was evident as we could hear words of encouragement amongst the children and adults as they made their way around the maunga and then as they climbed to the top. We can see that the expansive learning environment at Bush Kindergarten is providing children with the skills to face challenges with a can do attitude and through this experience they are transferring their learning to the wider world.

Each trip to our maunga has provided us with new events and this trip was no different. We noticed the grass was a lot longer and that there was a lot of yellow flowers growing on the mountain, a true sign of Spring. Revisiting previous experiences is how we build on our knowledge and we noticed the children's kite flying skills had developed as they let out the string to allow their kites to fly higher. The children were at one with the wide open spaces, initiating their own games as they ran, played roly poly, and set their own goals.

Children see Puketapapa as a special place where they can take their families in the evenings or in the weekend, and as Lily explained to a visitor to our Kindergarten later that afternoon, "We visited our kindergarten mountain today." Powerful words.

Visits will continue in the new year as we strengthen our connections with Puketapapa, and we look forward to the strong whānau involvement as we explore our maunga. (Individual photo page also included for each child)