



Rangatiratanga

When Kyro spotted Teal making a very cool construction he instantly wanted one exactly the same. As I approached to help him figure out how he might make one, Teal started to fossick around looking for grey pieces for Kyro. Quickly clicking pieces together he started to construct a replica on the mat. He laid down his first construction, then piece by piece, repeated the pattern by studying, testing, re-making and retesting until he had it perfect. Kyro and I watched with fascination.

How has the mahi of this rangatira helped Kyro and our community today?

Leadership has many, many layers. Usually I would have encouraged Kyro to make his own construction alongside Teal so that he felt a sense of ownership over the work. But today we had the privilege of watching a master at work. Teal internally choose to take on the challenge of helping a younger friend. He took on this challenge without one ounce of self doubt, forming a plan in his head of how to achieve, believing in himself to figure out the pattern and working with resilience and perseverance until he had completed it. To me there is no greater example of leadership...there are simply times to step forward and lead by example, and other times when you can work alongside a friend and encourage them to try something new for themselves. Teal showed Kyro what confidence, kindness, resilience and contribution looks like in practice. Teal showed Kyro what it looks like to be a rangatira.

Where might this learning lead for Teal?

Teal is a taonga within our teaching and learning environment. We recognise in him many attributes of leadership, and in the coming months we will continue to encourage him to help and guide his younger friends. Being out on adventures with Team Tuesday in the ngahere will provide so many opportunities for Teal to practice rangatiratanga, and I'm sure his kaiako will work alongside him in support of this.

