

Sand, water and mahi tahi are winners!

Sand and water is the 'vehicle' that carries so much exploration and learning for Dellow and Des. It brings them together with huge amounts of enthusiasm and they work, deeply absorbed in the flow of learning. Others come into the play too, but together Dellow and Des are the masterminds of their world. Harvey was curious about their mahi, and came over with a dinosaur to crash through the construction. "NO!" Was the response to the thought of a dinosaur crashing down the world Des and Dellow had created. As I encouraged the boys to explain their game, Harvey learnt that this was a place for sea creatures to live, not dinosaurs. Harvey thought for a moment, and then created a little bridge over the river. This was a great idea, and the busy hum of mahi tahi was restored.



My thoughts on the learning for Dellow and Des.

Mahi tahi is a way of describing this play. It encompasses an ability to cooperate, and a collective responsibility towards a group. Des reminded everyone that 'working together is what we do', and as everyone began to express their ideas and listen to their friends, the flow of the game was restored. I am noticing this ability to navigate mahi tahi more often. As Dellow added a sheep to the game, he narrated his ideas. This means Des understood the plan, and the sheep swimming, getting stuck and covered in sand, and then being rescued became the new focus of the game.

This ability to regulate your own emotions and collaborate in a shared project is an incredible skill that supports learning. It allowed Dellow and Des to focus on the mahi, problem solving and feel the satisfaction and joy from their mahi tahi. As they encounter different play, it is their experience at mahi tahi that will mean that they can absorb the new learning. This is how I can see ***their learning continue to grow.*** By immersing themselves in play, drawing on their ability to collaborate and being inspired by the flow of ideas. We know that we will find Dellow and Des immersed in sand and water again, and we will be there to help if needed as others are drawn into their mahi. Lincoln has been a big part of working alongside them too, and he will be watching carefully to learn how to carry out this mahi tahi. Will Thea join in too? You big brothers have so much wisdom to share about mahi tahi, I am so curious to see what the story is for the next sand and water construction.

Aroha nui, Tanya

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Dellow and Desmond's wise and kind mahi tahi is growing, there is much for our teina to learn from this mahi tahi, and they love to be involved in the play.

