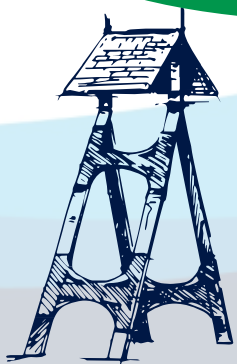
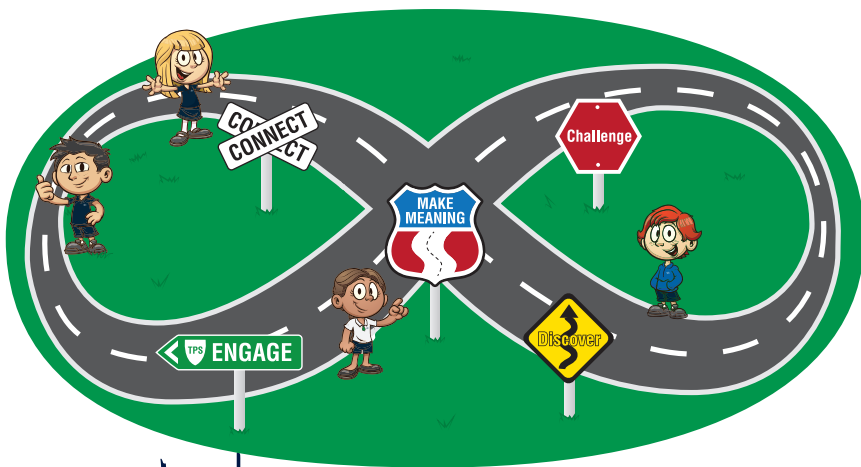


Learning Through Play

What is Learning Through Play?

Learning through play is an approach where play is the primary mode of learning. Through play children can explore, experiment, discover and solve problems. At TPS learning through play is integrated with explicit teaching of Literacy and Numeracy skills, based on learner readiness. Playful learning happens along a continuum, with different levels of adult involvement. At one end, free play gives children the freedom to play, explore and discover; at the other end of the continuum play is guided or structured with adult participation. Adults support the learning through play no matter where it is on the continuum.



TAURANGA Primary School



Together, we are learning to go places
Akongia tātou, ngā haere ki wāhi kē



Why is it important?

At Tauranga Primary School we believe that learning through play is vital, in order to develop the skills and dispositions required for more formal learning in Reading, Writing and Maths.

Play is an important part of a child's development. Playing helps young children's brains to develop, and their language and communication skills to mature.

Children are 'hands-on' learners. They acquire knowledge through play. They need a lot of practise with solid objects to understand abstract concepts. Skills across all developmental domains can be encouraged through play, including motor, cognitive, social and emotional skills.

An important aspect of play is children's agency and control over their experience. They use their initiative, make decisions and choices during play.

Play is actively **engaging**.

Children play to **make sense of the world** around them, and to find meaning in an experience by **connecting** it to something already known. Through play, children express and expand their understanding of their experiences. Children play to practise skills, try out possibilities, revise hypotheses and **discover** new **challenges**; which all lead to deeper learning.

Play is socially interactive. Through play, children learn to connect, share, negotiate and resolve conflicts and **challenges**. Play allows children to **communicate** ideas and understand others.