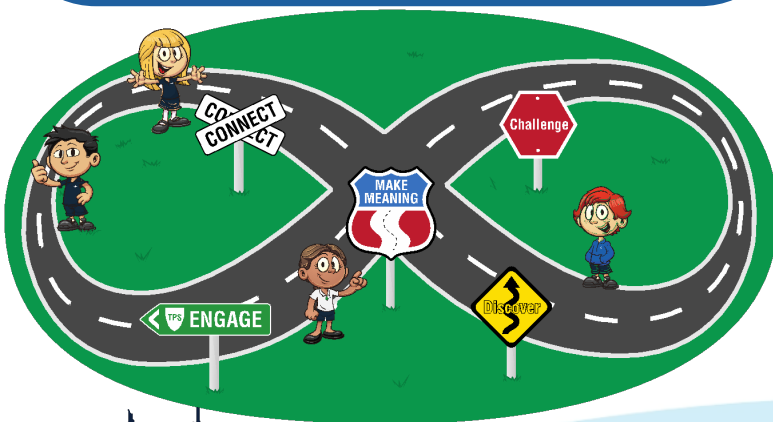


# Learning Through Play

## What is Learning Through Play?

Children are naturally curious and love to play. Learning Through Play uses children's motivation to play as the foundation to learn. 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.



**TAURANGA**  
Primary School

## Why is Learning Through Play important?

At Tauranga Primary School we believe that Learning Through Play is vital in order to develop the foundational skills and dispositions required for more formal learning in Reading, Writing and Maths. Our Learning Through Play environments ensure smooth transitions from home or early childhood centres to school. Learning through play is a crucial part of children's development, where children learn to make sense of the world around them through play. Play is one of the essential ways in which young children gain critical cognitive, physical and communication skills. Play is a child's context for learning. Children practise and reinforce their learning in multiple areas during play.

## Benefits of Learning Through Play:

Play is a fun, actively engaging and meaningful way to learn. Children can learn at their own level and pace while making **connections**

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

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

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 and allows children to develop Key Competency Skills.

Through play, children learn to connect, share, negotiate and resolve conflicts

Play allows children to communicate ideas and understand others

Play provides rich learning opportunities, and leads to increased success and self-esteem in children