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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

EARLY CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION  
Be involved  
Get enrolled

# TE WHĀRIKI

HE WHĀRIKI MĀTAURANGA MŌ NGĀ  
MOKOPUNA O AOTEAROA  
EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM

It's easy to find out more about  
early childhood education

If you would like more information about *Te Whāriki* and how you can be involved in the curriculum at your child's service, talk to the teachers or educators. You can also see the updated *Te Whāriki* (and its companion, *Te Whāriki a te Kōhanga Reo*) here: [www.parents.education.govt.nz](http://www.parents.education.govt.nz)

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New Zealand Government



Ehara taku toa i te  
toa takitahi engari  
he toa takitini.

I come not with my own  
strengths but bring with  
me the gifts, talents and  
strengths of my family,  
tribe and ancestors



# TE WHĀRIKI

*Te Whāriki* includes principles and strands which together describe a holistic curriculum.



Children learn a huge amount in the first years of their lives. Participating in quality early childhood education strengthens this early learning and lays a strong foundation for later success.

All early childhood education services are required to deliver a curriculum that empowers young children to be confident and competent learners. The framework for this curriculum is set out in *Te Whāriki*, which has recently been updated.

Each service weaves a local curriculum (or whāriki) based on the principles, strands, goals and learning outcomes found in *Te Whāriki*. When deciding which areas to focus on, teachers and educators take into account the interests, strengths and needs of the children and the aspirations of parents, whānau and community.

*Te Whāriki* supports every child to be strong in his or her identity, language and culture.

## PRINCIPLES

### EMPOWERMENT WHAKAMANA

Early childhood curriculum empowers the child to learn and grow

### HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT KOTAHITANGA

Early childhood curriculum reflects the holistic way that children learn and grow

### FAMILY AND COMMUNITY WHĀNAU TANGATA

The wider world of family and community is an integral part of early childhood curriculum

### RELATIONSHIPS NGĀ HONONGA

Children learn through responsive and reciprocal relationships with people places and things

## STRANDS

### WELLBEING MANA ATUA

The health and wellbeing of the child are protected and nurtured

### BELONGING MANA WHENUA

Children and their families feel a sense of belonging

### CONTRIBUTION MANA TANGATA

Opportunities for learning are equitable, and each child's contribution is valued

### COMMUNICATION MANA REO

The languages and symbols of children's own and other cultures are promoted and protected

### EXPLORATION MANA AOTŪROA

The child learns through active exploration of the environment