



Ngā tākaro mātātoa me te hangarua | Adventure and junk play

Recycled or repurposed resources (junk) can provide unstructured and spontaneous open-ended play experiences. Tamariki often love to build their own creations using 'junk' materials. These resources are cheap and easy to find from the recycled, natural, and manufactured materials in the world around us.

Links to *Te Whāriki*

Adventure and junk play allows tamariki to be curious about the world and supports them to be courageous and explore risk-taking in a safe and supervised environment.



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Adventure and junk play can help tamariki to:

- › solve problems, plan, and reason
- › develop their ideas and make sense of the world
- › play, imagine, invent, and experiment
- › work with others, share, and take turns
- › learn about mathematical ideas such as fitting in spaces, going under, over, through, and between
- › respect te taiao, the natural world
- › recycle and repurpose as part of caring for the environment.

Adults can support tamariki by:

- › talking with and listening to their thoughts and opinions
- › talking about ideas like sustainability and kaitiakitanga
- › letting them explore at their own pace and ability (ā tōnā wā, i tōna taumata)
- › supporting them to try out their own ideas, without taking over
- › helping them practise their social skills and problem solving
- › creating a safe environment (e.g. no choking hazards, poisonous plants)
- › providing a wide range of equipment and resources.

Providing for junk play

Give tamariki opportunities to experiment with a diverse range of objects. Adventure and junk play is all about tamariki using their imaginations and exploring their ideas — For example, shells might be money, and the log a waka.

Resources for adventure play with junk

- › boxes, cartons, cardboard
- › ladders, planks, tubes, plastic pipe
- › tyres
- › old blankets, hessian carpet
- › dress-up clothes
- › natural materials such as shells, logs, harakeke, driftwood, stumps, rocks
- › paint for decorating
- › glue, sticky tape and string.