



Ngā haerenga | Visits & outings

Trips and outings provide opportunities to explore people, places, resources, and events that have shaped your local community. Trips to places outside the playgroup or visits from people to the playgroup can provide tamariki with hands-on experiences and increase their understanding of the world around them.

Links to *Te Whāriki*

Visits and outings provide opportunities for tamariki to learn and make connections between local people, places, and things in their world (**Belonging | Mana whenua**). Tamariki learn to make sense of their worlds by generating and refining working theories | te rangahau me te mātauranga (**Exploration | Mana aotūroa**). When they are out and about they are using a range of strategies and skills to play and learn with others (**Contribution | Mana tangata**).





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Outings don't have to be major – a simple walk to the park or to watch nearby road works can be interesting for tamariki. Take your time and allow tamariki to think about what they see. A book with photographs telling the story of the visit can be helpful for tamariki to understand what's going on, and it provides a starting point for discussing and revisiting the experience.

Visits and outings help tamariki to:

- › learn about the community they belong to
- › discover the local history and culture
- › experience new sights, sounds, and smells
- › question and explore
- › learn new vocabulary and engage in conversations
- › build confidence, social skills, and a sense of belonging.

Adults can support tamariki by:

- › involving them in the planning for the trip
- › supervising them on the trip
- › asking questions about different things on the trip
- › keeping a photographic or written record of the trip for the literacy / book area
- › using simple te reo Māori words and phrases
- › identifying te reo Māori street names and researching what they mean or who they are named after.



Places to visit

- › the local marae
- › a playground
- › beach and nature reserves
- › community garden
- › the fire station or police station
- › the local library
- › an airport
- › a farm.

Ideas for people visiting the playgroup

- › te ao Māori storytellers, artists, and kapa haka performers
- › health nurse
- › toy library coordinator or local librarian
- › a police officer or a firefighter
- › people working with with animals, such as the SPCA
- › people from the different cultures.



Marae

Marae provides excellent learning opportunities about Māori culture and traditions. Visiting your local Marae can be a fun way for parents and tamariki to learn new things about Māori culture. It is a good idea to have someone that knows the tikanga of the marae to go with you in order to help support and guide a marae visit.

When visiting a local marae, respect, and reciprocity are essential concepts to understand and practice. It is important to ask marae if they are able to host visits for groups. For more information on marae locations around Aotearoa/New Zealand see [Welcome to Māori Maps | Maori Maps](#).

Preparing for a trip

All parents who attend the playgroup need to know about trips and have the opportunity to be involved. Playgroups are still required to maintain the ratio standard of at least half the tamariki having a parent or caregiver with them, and there should be no less than one adult for every four tamariki on the trip. Each parent or caregiver needs to be responsible for their own tamariki. When planning the trip, make sure there are enough cars for transport and enough car restraints available for every child. On longer trips, stop part-way for a break and allow tamariki time to explore fully.

Groups might take these things with them

- › first aid kit and any other necessary medication
- › cell phone
- › sunblock or other sun protection
- › snacks, drinks, and damp cloths to clean up sticky fingers
- › tissues
- › changes of clothes
- › camera
- › koha or gift to thank those being visited.