

# VOICES from Reading Together® Te Pānui Ngātahi



The benefits families and whānau receive from Reading Together®

## STRENGTH-BASED APPROACH MEETS WHĀNAU NEEDS

### When Reading Together® Te Pānui Ngātahi setting is right, whānau can make educationally powerful connections and say...

"Thank you so much. I had bad experiences at school, now I feel welcomed and supported. I have joined the home school association...I like the sharing we do at the meetings, it feels like we are supporting one another." (Parent)

"I found it hard to come in the door [to Reading Together], but it has given me the confidence to enrol on a course to better myself. I wouldn't have believed I could have done this and joining this group was enough to make me realise that I could learn." (Parent)

*"...I feel welcomed and supported."*  
(Parent)

"I honestly thought this group was going to be another form of being told "you don't know enough and don't teach enough" [and] "you have to be better". But it's not, it's about learning to communicate in a child's world with support and advice from other parents. It's nice to know I'm not alone in some things that I struggle with as a parent." (Parent)

*"...it's about learning to communicate in a child's world with support and advice from other parents."*  
(Whānau)

"I am very grateful for the extra time the teachers have taken to help us. The awesome books, great advice and yummy food. It was a lovely rewarding experience." (Parent)

### Whānau learned strategies to support reading

When whānau use the Reading Together® Te Pānui Ngātahi resources and strategies, they increase their confidence to support their children's reading and say ...

"They taught us the way we approach them, the tone of our voice and to be more patient with them. I took it home, put into practice which has really helped, with their reading [and] relationships between me and my children." (Parent)

"I loved the workshop when we were trying to work out 'Di tri ladle Pegs'. That was so much fun working together. Long pauses, lots of animated sounds, laughter, mistakes, trying every which way, more laughter... made me realise the pauses that stress me out when listening to my kid read are exactly the pauses I was making. Oh! my, hello, reality check." (Parent)

*"I took it home, put into practice which has really helped, with their reading [and] relationships between me and my children."*  
(Parent)

"Some kupu I have learnt [to support tamaiti] are Tauawhi (Praise kupu) – Ka pai, tino pai...tumeke, ka rawe, tika and Tatari – Wait." (Whānau workshop)

Want to offer Reading Together® in your school?

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## THE DIFFERENCE THAT READING TOGETHER® TE PĀNUI NGĀTAHI MAKES

### Improved whānau wellbeing – more whānau connection, harmony, and fun!

"Our one-on-one reading time [is] more enjoyable which has [a] roll-on effect. ...She's going to bed happier and waking happier. It's reduced a lot of stress in our home! Thank you! It [has] just made life easier. Less tension at home; we're better friends." (Parent)

*"Reading is no longer a task, but something to enjoy. Ka pai tō mahi me haere tonu!"*  
(Parent)

"Thank you. I had no idea that speaking Tongan when looking at the pictures and discussing book could support my child read in English. There is less pressure on me now and less pressure on my son." (Parent)

"There is a whole new game-plan in our house now. No more put-downs ... if you build the love of reading ... being in that moment to help ... Watch this space." (Parent)

*"No more put-downs ... if you build the love of reading ... being in that moment to help..."*  
(Parent)

"It's Patience! Now I understand how frustrated my child was ... Now as a whānau we really enjoy reading at home." (Parent)

### Parents and whānau now connect more with schools

"The fact that we could meet with those senior leaders and have that open door policy and speak to them about anything and everything. It really stripped away all those barriers." (Parent)

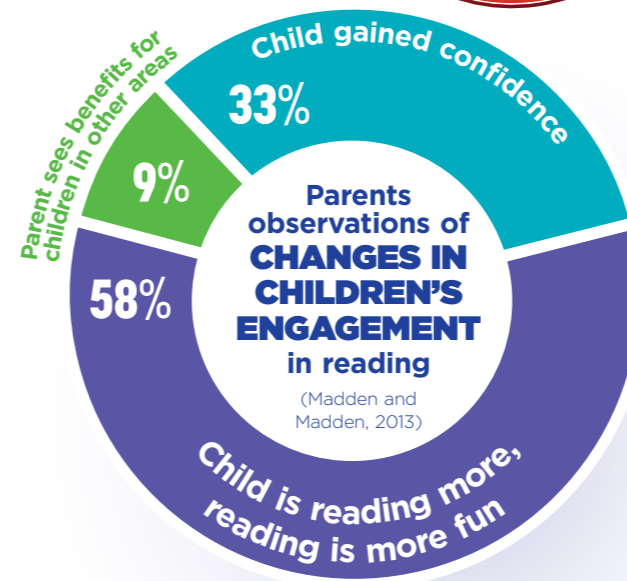
"I am a lot more interested and wanting to be more part of the school and learn more about what the school is doing." (Parent)

### Children are more confident and keener to learn

"[Reading Together has made a] massive difference for my children. It has honestly turned my son around to a confident, encouraging child wanting to learn. A happy home, happy child therefore happy whānau." (Parent)

*"It has honestly turned my son around to a confident, encouraging child wanting to learn."*  
(Parent)

"(Tamaiti) now feels proud of her reading and going up three levels. She reads more confidently with good flow and expression. She sounds out unfamiliar words and self corrects when it doesn't sound right." (Parent)



## What the children say...

"When I read with my Mum I feel confident because if there is a word I don't know my Mum helps me, so it's not like a reading test." (Child)

"Nan tries to read with me more. She doesn't always just tell me the word now. I get to choose really fun books and go to the library every week." (Child)

*"When you are reading together with your Mum it is safe, happy, very good."*  
(Child)

*"...I feel confident because if there is a word I don't know my Mum helps me"*  
(Child)

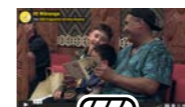


## HEAR MORE INSIGHTS FROM PARENTS

Parents explain



Wānanga



Connection



Participants

