



Wairoa School

an individual journey in education

Curriculum Focus Days
*An Innovative Way Of
Accessing The Broader And
Balanced Key Learning
Areas*



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In the beginning....

- Stems from review of School Development Plan.
- Through staff feedback, it was felt that the curriculum was limited and not broad or balanced enough, but in a busy day at a SSP difficult to do everything.
- A desire to increase parental involvement. We have good attendance for Xmas concert, but wanted to involve the parent to actively participate through the year.



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An Approach By COFA

- A close association with COFA has been developed





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How it all happens.....

- Day a term – 4 days a year plus book week.
- Planning revolves team and whole school meetings – a teacher and an member of the executive are the leaders for each day.
- Ensure well resourced and good catering, and is budgeted for.
- Invite wider community, friends and families.



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Organisation

Special Curriculum Day - PE DAY Checklist			
Job List	By This date	Comments	
Beginning Stages			
Set Date & Confirm Date	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff & Exec allocated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brainstorm activities with staff / teams several times	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchase equipment if needed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contact schools and volunteers to support the day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Send home note about curriculum day - note in diary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two Weeks Prior To Day			
Send home reminder to parents about day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consult with staff final groups and activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Week Before			
Confirm with staff groups & EQUIPMENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Send home reminder note about day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff to provide lesson plan both electronically in folder and on paper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Confirm extra support i.e. Rose Bay Secondary College and Volunteers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchase food items for morning tea (soft drinks/ water/lollies/biscuits) etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The day before			
Send home reminder note	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organise & set up tables for morning tea in foyer area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organise & set up tables in the gym	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Job List	By This date	Comments	
On the Day			
Organise tea/coffee/soft drink & water (purchasing etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchase fresh food for morning tea i.e. cake/milk etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check that all staff are organised	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff to set up activity if absent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ask all staff to charge cameras to use on the day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Following Days			
Organise all staff / volunteers to wear name tags	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure all staff and activities are set up in the morning if possible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure morning tea is set up in foyer or other area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The organisation of the day XXXXXX is displayed around the school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All staff have a timetable available to them	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
One staff / row camera's to take photos on the day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check all equipment if table i.e. tables in foyer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Following Days			
every thing is packed away	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All photos taken on the day made and archive purpose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All photos to make DVD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sound of day in foyer area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SCIENCE DAY 2008 Timetable

Science Session Areas & Staff	Classes	1 st Session	2 nd Session	3 rd Session
		10.15 - 10.45am	11.20 - 11.50am	12.00 - 12
1. Annette's room - Jessica Ice	Liya & Judy	Liya's room	Jane's room	Annette's r
2. Hall - RBSC Students Playdough, colours, gardening	Jess & Masako	Annette's room	Liya's room	Pen's room
3. Liya's classroom - Liya Coloured popcorn	Wendy & Jean	Art room (Reddam)	Pen's room	Hall
4. Art Room - Wendy Colour mixing	Sally & Inas	Pen's room	Annette's room	Kitchen



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Outcomes

- Positive feedback from all involved.
- Continually refining.

Outcomes for our students

- Enormous gains in students' learning
- To ensure that inclusive to the school, the days are a theme for our weekly assemblies.
- Resources can be used throughout the year, across K – 12 e.g. Sensory box
- Depending on curriculum area the students may or may not be grouped by ability.





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Outcomes for staff

- Staff – hard work, but they enjoy the challenge.
- Enables staff to have professional development in Leadership skills.
- It has broaden our view on teaching and learning from a Pedagogy perspective.
- Built up staffs' technology skills through these days.



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Pros

- Ent husiasm f r om st af f , st udent s, par ent s and communit y.
- Links made t o local schools.
- Mor e par ent s accessing t he school.
- Gains in lear ning f or st udent s and st af f .
- Great er under standing of t he curriculum and BOS out comes f or st af f .
- Team building and t eam wor k.
- Great sense of school ident ity.
- Always surpr ising how st udent s st ep up t o t he challenge, not only in curriculum also ot her skills.
- All st udent s are involved.

Sensory Stories

- An additional bonus is the making of Sensory Stories
- For Book week, each class chose a book and developed accompanying sensory story resources.



The Bear's lunch by Pamela Allen
Props crib sheet

Box Content:

- → Book (1 - original, 1:44 photocopied with visuals, 1:43 laminated with visuals)!
- → Visuals + read each page using visuals!
- → PPT for use on computer and / or IWB!
- → Props!

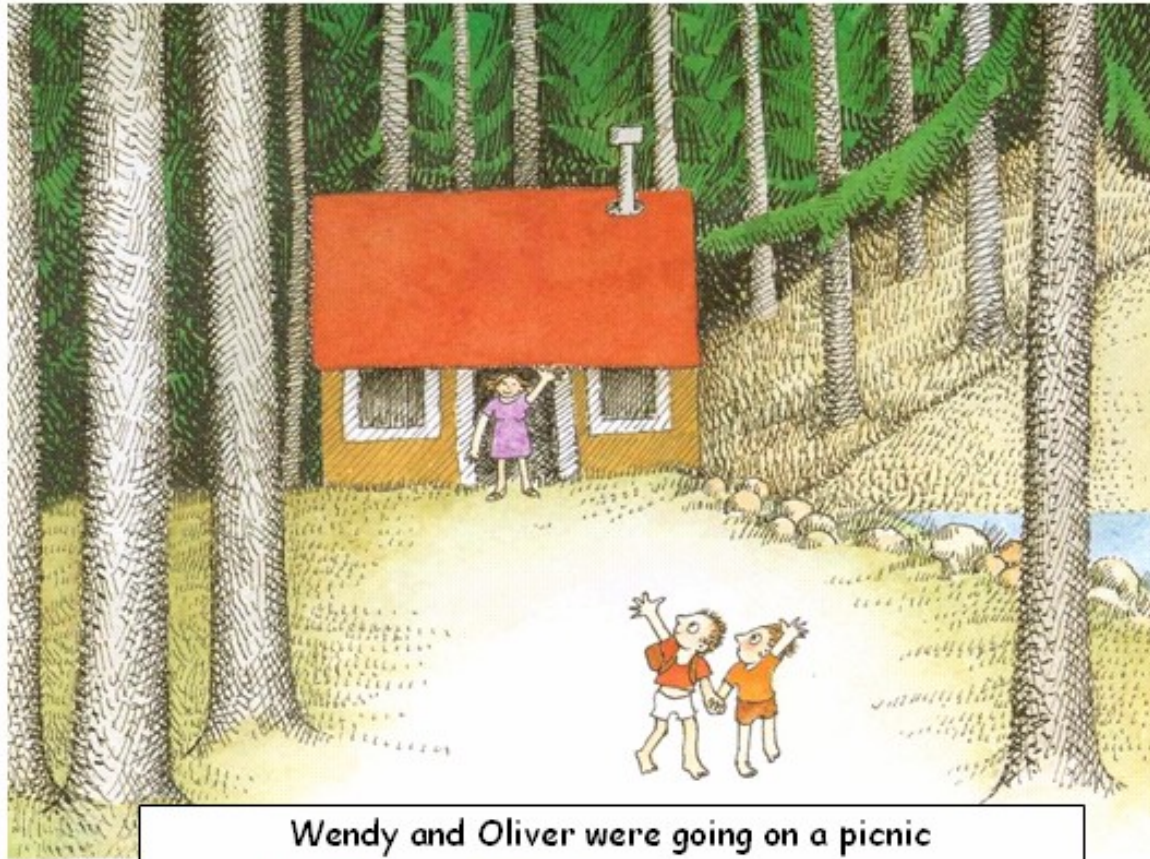
Story script	prop
Title	Bear
Wendy & Oliver go on a picnic	Wendy & Oliver Paddle boards - introduce
Didn't know bear was with them	Bear (press tummy for ROAR)
Bear looking	Bear - roar
Frightened mouse	Mouse on string - as feed pull it back! Or wind up mouse - watch as runs
Frightened bird	Flap bird fan or! Windmill - flutter away
Frightened fish	Fish in zip bag in hair gel - flop
Frightened squirrel	Feather duster - tickle
Eating Oliver lunch	Sandwich - eat (plastic)
Thirsty bear	A popper bottle - drink (pretend)
Bear wants more	1 step communicator - roar
Bear closer & closer	1 step communicator - roar
Look into bear eyes	Red torch - shine in eyes
Oliver roar	Monster microphone - all roar
Running away	Bear & children - run away or - everyone runs around room!!!
Home again	Hugs!!!



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Bear's Lunch



Wendy



Oliver

picnic



Wendy and Oliver were going on a picnic



Wendy



Oliver



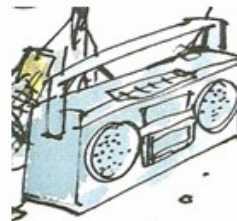
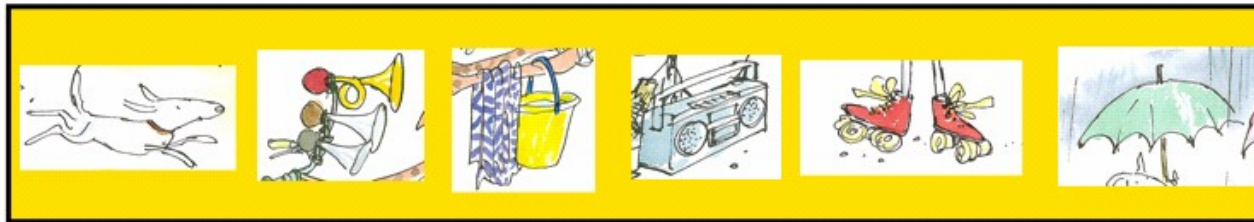
picnic



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Notebook Resource

Find the missing picture!





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Cons:

- Increased work load for staff – before and on the day.
- Some students find changes in routine makes it stressful.
- We found it long day initial so for PE only 2 sessions.
- Extra strain on the budget e.g. catering.



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Moving Forward

- Moving onto other curriculum areas
- Involving more schools and other individuals in our special days
- Use more technology
- Making more resources across all the school

Now it's time for you guys

- Now for a Practical activity:
 - How would you do it for these other curriculum areas - Geography, History, D&T in your school setting?

Lucky Door Prize

- Sensory story Box Give Away
‘Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?’
- And a Resource List –
providing some useful
websites

