He waka eke noa: A case study of active participation for a disabled child in an inclusive early childhood community of practice

Kate McAnelly
Introducing Me

• Parent
• Early childhood teacher
• Proud NZEI Te Riu Roa member
• Researcher
The genesis of my dissertation
The political context that often reinforces exclusion

The status of ECE

How the Education Act, NZDS, Te Whāriki, UNCROC, and UNCRPD are understood and enacted

The government’s understanding of ‘participation’
Making sense of active participation

Introducing *Huakina Mai* (Mackey & Lockie, 2012)

- Four layers of participation in early childhood settings – enrolment, attendance, participation, active participation
- Active participation as being ecological, pedagogic, equitable and inclusive in nature
The Theory

Disability Studies in Education (DSE)

Communities of practice (Wenger)

(image courtesy enhancementthemes.ac.uk) (image courtesy disability-studies.leeds.ac.uk)
Introducing the Project

- Ethnographic case study
- Finding my kindergarten and participants
- Transitioning from teacher to researcher
Active participation in action

➢ What does active participation look like in practice?
➢ Emergent themes
Redefining the concept of active participation

Pedagogic
All members of early childhood communities of practice enjoy responsive, reciprocal relationships with each other that value different ways of being, doing and knowing

Ecological
All members of early childhood communities of practice are able to realise an image of themselves and each other as capable, competent, powerful learners and contributors to the world around them

Equitable / Inclusive
All members of early childhood communities of practice are supported to have an equitable voice in decision making processes about the things that affect them there

because inclusive education for all is upheld as a fundamental human right in these spaces

Image designed and supplied by Steve (Tama's Dad)
Summing things up

- Answering my research question
- What does my dissertation offer that’s new?
Where to from here?

• Early childhood teaching
• To PhD and beyond
• Presenting and publishing

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Key references


Contacting me

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