

Science of Learning



What is Science of Learning

The science of learning helps us understand how children learn most effectively. It shows that learning builds over time when new ideas connect to what children already know, and when they have chances to practise, explore, and reflect.

It also highlights the importance of feeling safe, supported, and motivated in the classroom. Every child learns differently, so teaching is designed to be inclusive and responsive.

Why is it Important?

The science of learning research guides Te Mātaiaho, the refreshed New Zealand Curriculum and helps shape teaching in ways that best support all learners to grow in confidence, understanding, and independence.

principles



Connecting the Dots

Students learn new ideas by reference to ideas they already know.



Practicing with Purpose

Practice is essential to learning new facts, but not all practice is equivalent.



Managing the Learning Load

Learning can be impeded if students are confronted with too much information at once.



Building Feedback Loops

Effective feedback is essential to acquiring new knowledge and skills.



Deepening Meaning and Learning

We usually want students to remember what information means and why it is important, so they should think about meaning when they encounter to-be-remembered material.



Creating a Motivating Environment

Students will be motivated to learn in environments where they feel safe and valued.



Links

- [Science of Learning Explained - The New Zealand Curriculum](#)
- [Parent Portal - Ministry of Education](#)
- [Introduction to the Science of Learning - The Education Hub](#)

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