

# Your Child's Literacy Journey

*Every child starts at their own stage. This pathway shows how we'll build their reading and writing step by step — helping them grow with confidence.*

Children work through each stage in 5-week blocks, with a quick check at the end to see what they've mastered and whether they're ready to move on or review.



## Kākano (Seed)



(Typically learnt by the end of Year 1)

- **Short vowels:** a, e, i, o, u
- **Consonants:** m, d, t, s, p, n, k, c, h, r, b, f, l, g, w, j, v, y, z, x
- **Consonant digraphs:** ck, th, sh, ch, ng



## Tupu (Seedling)



(Typically learnt by the end of Year 2)

- **Double consonants (Floss rule):** ff, ll, ss, zz,
- **Consonant digraphs & trigraphs-** x, qu, wh, -tch, -dge
- **Beginning Blends:** st, sp, cl, tr
- **End blends:** st ld lk mp nt sk nk
- **Long vowels (split digraphs):** a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e, u-e
- **Alternative spellings:** soft c (cent), oo (food/look)

## Māhuri (Sapling)

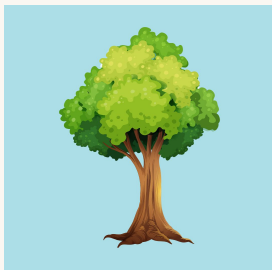


(Typically learnt by the end of Year 3)

- **Suffixes:** -ing, -ed, -s, -es (plurals & verb endings)
- **Long vowels:** ay, ai, ee, ea, igh, oa, ow, oe, ew, ue
- **R-controlled vowels:-** ar, or, er, ir, ur, ear, air, ere
- **Diphthongs:** oi, oy, ou, ow
- **Alternative spellings:** ea (bread), igh (night), ph (phone), -ge (bridge)



## Rākau (Tree)



(Typically learnt by the end of Year 4-6)

- **Contractions:** I'm, can't, we'll, she's, they'll
- **Multisyllabic words:** Using known phonics patterns to read longer words (e.g. sunset, fantastic)
- **Prefixes & suffixes:** re-, un-, -est, -ly
- **Further vowel & consonant patterns:** eigh (eight), kn (know), gh (ghost), oar (roar), ore (more)

**These year levels are a guide only. Every child moves at their own pace, and I adjust groups to match their needs.**