

# *In The Beginning*



Over the past few months the children at Tuakau Kindergarten have become familiar with the story 'In the Beginning.'

The children are developing an understanding of the atua and referring to these in everyday situations. When discussing the weather at mat time each morning children will talk of Ranganui crying for Papatuanuku when it is raining, Ra is shining or that Tawhirimatea is blowing the trees. One child told his mum on one particularly windy day that "Tawhirimatea was angry today



During our nature discovery adventures each week we stop before entering the forest area and say thank you to the atua that the children are familiar with. Using the story as a provocation children have created drawings, sculptures and puppets and often refer to the atua in their imaginative play. Rongomatane has pride of place overlooking our garden.



Children are sharing this knowledge with their families, with many now asking about the story, broadening their own knowledge and understanding.