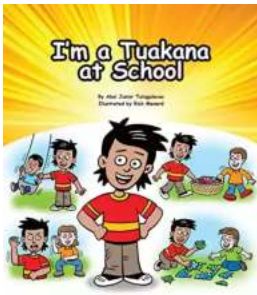


# Tuakana At School: Unlocking the Power of Peer Mentoring



Peer mentoring has become an increasingly popular approach in education and has shown remarkable results in empowering students to reach their full potential. Among the various peer mentoring programs, one that stands out is Tuakana, a Maori term meaning "older sibling" or "mentor." Tuakana At School is an innovative mentoring initiative that harnesses the power of older students to support and guide their younger counterparts. In this article, we will explore the benefits of Tuakana At School and how it fosters a positive learning environment for all students involved.



## I'm a Tuakana at School

by Abel Junior Tutagalevao (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 10852 KB

Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 20 pages

Lending : Enabled



## The Power of Mentoring

Mentoring has long been recognized as a powerful tool for personal and professional growth. When applied in an educational setting, it can create a nurturing environment that promotes collaboration, builds self-esteem, and enhances academic achievement. While teacher-student relationships are crucial, introducing peer mentors into the equation adds a unique dimension that traditional teaching methods may not achieve.

## Tuakana At School: A Closer Look

Tuakana At School is a program that pairs older students, known as tuakana, with younger students, referred to as teina. The tuakana serves as a role model, guide, and confidant for their teina, offering support and guidance in various aspects of school life. The program aims to foster a sense of belonging and empowerment among both tuakana and teina, creating a positive learning environment.

## Building Confidence and Self-Esteem

One of the key benefits of Tuakana At School is its ability to build confidence and self-esteem in both tuakana and teina. Through their role as mentors, tuakana

gain a sense of responsibility, leadership, and pride in their ability to positively impact their peers. On the other hand, teina receive personalized attention and guidance from someone they can relate to, which boosts their confidence and encourages active participation in classroom activities.

## **Promoting Academic Success**

In addition to fostering personal development, Tuakana At School plays a vital role in promoting academic success. The peer mentors can provide teina with academic assistance, helping them grasp challenging concepts and improve their study skills. With the support of a tuakana, teina are more likely to stay engaged and motivated, leading to improved grades and overall academic achievement.

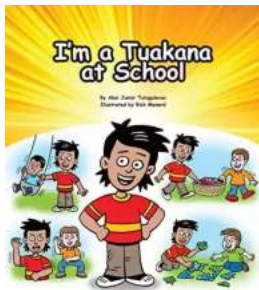
## **Developing Social Skills**

Social interaction plays a crucial role in a student's educational journey. Tuakana At School allows younger students to develop their social skills in a comfortable and supportive environment. The teina can seek guidance from their tuakana on navigating friendships, resolving conflicts, and building positive relationships. By observing their mentors, teina learn essential skills for effective communication, teamwork, and cooperation.

## **Creating a Sense of Belonging**

One of the challenges many students face is feeling isolated or disconnected from their school community. Tuakana At School addresses this issue by creating a sense of belonging for both tuakana and teina. The program establishes strong bonds between mentors and mentees, fostering a supportive community within the school. As a result, students feel valued, respected, and part of something greater, leading to improved attendance rates and reduced instances of bullying.

Tuakana At School is a peer mentoring program that holds immense potential in transforming educational experiences for students. By utilizing the power of older students as mentors, it enables personal growth, fosters academic success, develops social skills, and creates a sense of belonging within the school community. The positive impact of Tuakana At School on students' lives should not be underestimated, as it unlocks the power of peer mentoring and sets the stage for lifelong learning and achievement.



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If you're searching for a delightful, whimsical children's picture book that makes you feel good while reading and encourages a buddy-system in your classroom or home, then this book is for you.

I'm a Tuakana at School (I'm a Big Brother at School) is a book about how a little boy demonstrates and grow into an amazing big brother at school.

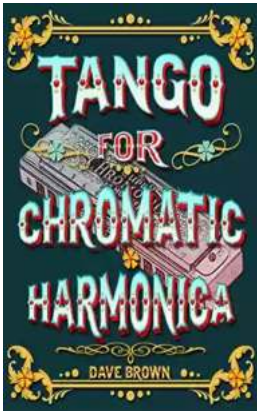
Tuakana-teina is a teaching and learning approach drawn from Te Ao Māori principles— the Māori world from New Zealand. It refers to the relationship between an older person (tuakana) and a younger person (teina).

Told through the eyes of an older brother and older school child at preschool, this simple story lays out all the good things about being an older sibling and preschooler helping younger children in his preschool or welcoming new children

transitioning to his school.

The book provides lots of everyday practical examples of showing love, support and all the good things that encourages boys aged 5 to 7 to become confident big brothers.

Help boys in your classroom and home get ready to become big brothers!



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