



Wildly Creative Group Activities & Experiences



Wildly Creative Superhero Wall Hits the Playhouse

It's not too late to take your wildly creative superhero planks to the Playhouse for a good cause.

Creative superheroes both big and small unleashed their creative kryptonite at the Playhouse on a beautiful spring day, on Sunday September 25th September. One plank inspired another and colourful superheroes and paint were heading for planks in all directions. Families assembled around planks and played in the playground under the soft green weeping willows, as Tui sang from the treetops. Spring and superheroes were definitely in the air and a wildly colourful superhero wall began to sneak out.

Nickola Blunt said the process has been so positive, fun and inspiring that the Playhouse is keen for the planking to happen on an ongoing basis. We are encouraging families/friends and businesses to do a plank together and bring it out to the Playhouse with a donation for the Starship Foundation, which raises funds for the Starship Children's Hospital. So if anyone didn't get their plank to the Playhouse it's not too late. **For instructions on how to make a plank go to www.wasa.co.nz**

Wonderful plank-making stories transpired, like the superhero works of Nayland Kindergarten where kids wrote "my hero pulls superheroes from the mud", "my hero eats golden rice bubbles for breakfast", "my hero is Sparkle and she rescues girls" on their superhero plank. Inspiring planks ranged from urban art to gorgeous superheroines glued upon poppy printed pajama pants surface and silver sprayed superheroes. The librarians from Broadgreen Intermediate devoted a superhero plank to their mums. There was a Go Wallabies plank and a brief humorous debate about which way round it would go on the wall!

Roger the local musician encouraged kids to let their superhero verses sneak out, which included a story of a Russian Cheese superhero, or anti-hero, who only sorted out good people. Parents were even occasionally startled when their children took to the microphone and singled them out from the audience for participation. Spontaneous musical performances in both Maori and English accompanied by random acts of ukulele were also part of the heroic musical action sneaking out.

Parents and grandparents played with their kids and wonderful conversations were had in the rowboat sandpit as people took the time to hangout with family and friends. Scottish woofers, Hannah, who got her face painted like a cat, said she had really enjoyed the day. Two tourists from Taiwan got artfully planking and were delighted to see the Chinese and Japanese exchange students' plank. The Moonin Superhero plank of Finnish origins and a list of the special Moonin stories now stands proudly at the door to the Playhouse. Plank creator efforts also came from Invercargill and Auckland, and more is to yet to come from Waimate.

One participant said the planking day really flicked a switch in their head and helped them feel more free about being creative. They said it's amazing to think we all have these beautiful gems within us that we don't even see because we are worried about not being good enough or needing to have more skills first. This is what WASA!® is all about, encouraging people to realize that they have an incredible collection of unique talents within them that enriches the world when it's allowed to sneak out. Along the way, many discussions have been had about the special qualities of superheroes and how they inspire us. It seems that adults have had just as much fun as kids seeking out the superheroes of their choice.

There are now more than 30 incredibly different planks adding kryptonite colour and inspiration to the playground; a wonderful example of how vibrant and diverse the community's creativity is. We would like to encourage people to go check it out and make a donation to the Starship Foundation. **If anyone would like to sponsor the wall as a donation to the Starship Foundation please contact with Nic Roland at the Playhouse ph 03 5402985.**