

Our Waka – Kia Kaha

Outcome:

To encourage students to learn about working together and cooperating to achieve a common goal.

Background:

'Together we can prevent bullying' needs everyone to be on the same waka, going in the same direction, and valuing the contribution that everyone brings.

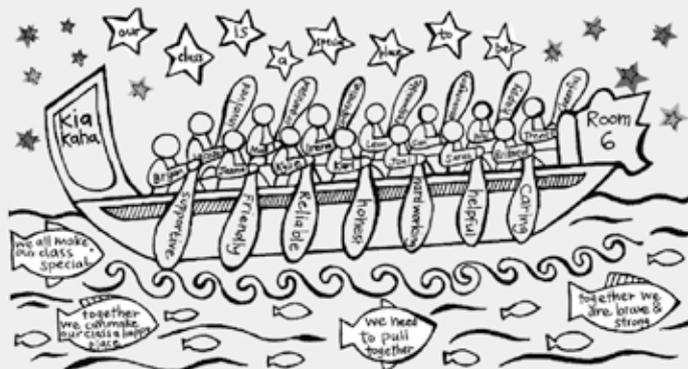
Materials:



Waka templates



Art materials



Method:

Part 1: Kia Kaha

- Put the term **Kia Kaha** on the board and discuss its meaning. Kia Kaha is part of the whakatauki 'Kia Kaha, Kia Toa, Kia Manawanui'. It is used here to affirm that all people need to stand strong against bullying. Explain that if we all stand strong for what we believe in and respect others and their views, our mana will increase. Our classroom will also be a nicer, more pleasant place.
- Talk about how everyone in the class has strengths and qualities, and how they can all pull together to make the class strong and happy.
- Brainstorm these strengths and qualities on the board. Examples could be **supportive, helpful, being a good listener, caring, sharing skills or talents, responsible, cheerful, honest, happy.**

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Part 2: Waka

- Explain that the students are going to make a waka, representing their class, with people inside pulling together to make the waka go smoothly.
- List the following tasks on the board:
 - 1:** Make the waka. Use the picture on page 45 as a guide.
 - 2:** Design and make a backdrop where the waka can be displayed.
 - 3:** Make the paddles, using the paddle template (on page 46).
 - 4:** Make the rowers, using the rower template (on page 46).
- From the brainstorm list in Part 1, ask the students to choose words they want in their class waka. Each word is written on a paddle and placed in the waka.
- Organise students to complete each task. (Note: the size of the rowers and the paddles will depend on the size of the waka, so groups will need to liaise with each other).
- Look at the completed waka together and ask:
 - Can we feel proud of our waka? Why, or why not?
 - Do you think our waka will flow smoothly ahead? Why, or why not?
 - What can we all do to make sure this happens?

