



Auckland Literacy Association



Creating Space in Classrooms for Translanguaging and Embodied Cultural Literacies



Dr. Rae Si'ilata

Ngāti Raukawa, Tūhourangi, Fiji

Director of Va'atele Education Consulting

Rae is contracted by the Ministry of Education to provide teacher professional learning and development, and to document research findings in ECE centres and primary schools.

Two current projects are the Pasifika Early Literacy Project (PELP) and the Pasifika Teacher Aide Project (PTAP), which focus on supporting teachers and learning assistants to privilege and utilise linguistically and culturally sustaining/revitalising pedagogies within their learning spaces.

Rae also works at Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi in the School of Indigenous Graduate Studies (SIGs), supporting Māori and Pacific taura in their Indigenous doctoral journeys.

How do we support kaiako to consider how they might create space for the language and literacy resources of emergent bilingual learners within their English literacy teaching programme? This talk will share insights gleaned from the Pasifika Early Literacy Project, where kaiako are supported to create and normalise bilingual learning spaces. Pasifika dual language books are used as catalysts to enact translanguaging pedagogies and to grow learners' embodied cultural literacies. Teachers' willingness to share power and to surface and disrupt deficit assumptions supports Pasifika learners to utilise their full linguistic repertoires. As teachers change their beliefs about the centrality of learners' lived experiences, languages and cultures, their classroom practice changes, and learners are empowered to lead learning, and to share their voices in agentic and culturally located ways.

When: 10th November
Time: 5:00 – 9:00 pm
Where: The Parnell Hotel & Conference Centre
20 Gladstone Rd
Parnell
Cost: \$75 for ALA members
\$100 for non-members

Programme

5:00pm: Welcome Tea & Coffee
5:30pm: Presentation
6:30pm: Dinner & Cash Bar
7:30pm: Talanoa and questions

REGISTRATION LINK: <https://forms.gle/Hbgzk77HkPV8NW4D8>