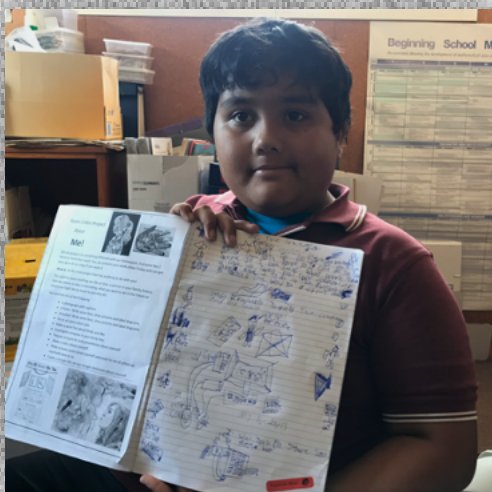


LEARNING TO COMMUNICATE



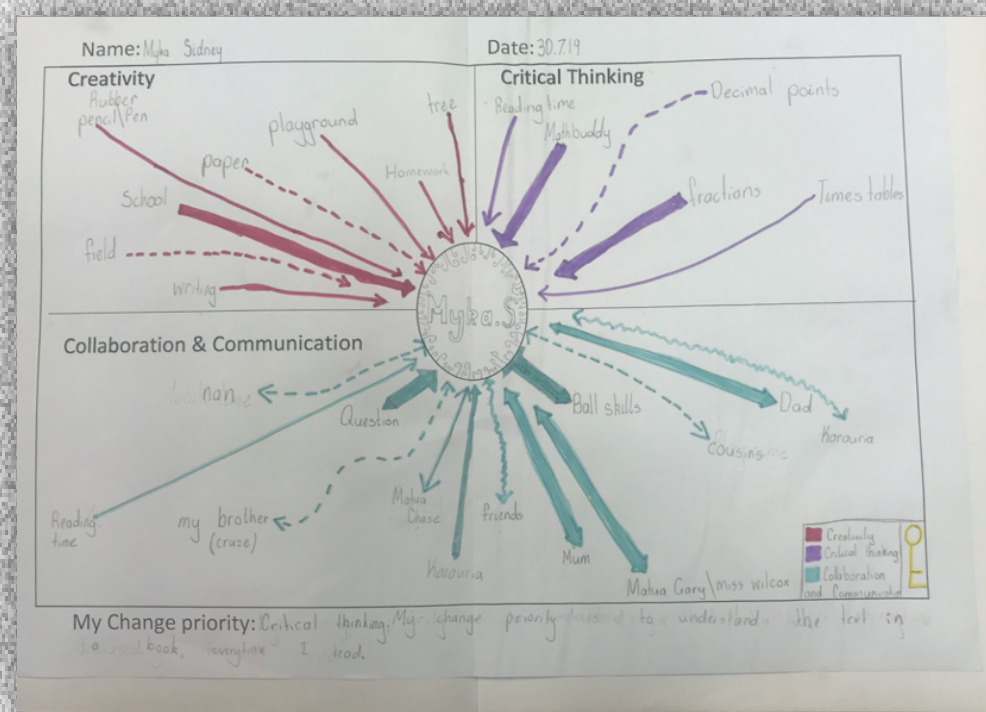
Taylor, a Year 5 student at Tolaga Bay Area School, rarely communicated with his peers or teachers. The picture shows Taylor as a Year 4 student holding his first Learning Map. He completed this map at home, somewhere he felt safe to create things. He was still not communicating. His teacher Marsha Wilcox has included the learning maps into "the way we do things around here." She has a strong belief about "students leading their own learning" and encourages them to take responsibility for their change, growth/development area. When Marsha gave the students some choice about the content for their mapping, Taylor chose communication, as the context for his Learning Map.

In a reflection Taylor stated

"Communication I am mostly shy to talk about things and communication helps me by making friends, telling people facts and speeches. So why I don't talk a lot because when going to say some facts about parrots or something I would not say anything or cry. But now I'm kind of more confident from communication! "

Taylor's Mum stated

"Listening to Taylor and his learning map I was very overwhelmed ... there was a time when he couldn't speak he had no confidence... to listen to him tell me what was building his confidence.. from a shy, silent boy who would just close off to everybody, and not talk...but this time... he spoke about all of us, even included his brother in his learning map, the teachers and how they have helped him, and what he can do to build his confidence, I'm just so proud. "



Full video of Taylor's mum
bit.ly/TaylorsMum

Taylor teacher, Marsha, weaved in a set of four competencies, which included communication, and supported Taylor in his personal goal to improve his communication. See Marsha's video bit.ly/Taylorteacher4Cs See another map below from a student in Marsha's class related to the four competencies, creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and communication. Taylor, with Marsha and his family, are participating in the project in 2020 and continuing to grow his confidence in communication.

Taylor, Year 5