

# Neurodiversity: Strategies for learners and educators

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Nā āheitanga ā-mātauranga,  
ko angitū ā-ākonga  
Building educational capability  
for learner success



Tēnā koutou

Ko Ruapehu tōku maunga

Ko Tamar tōku awa

Ko Ngāti Tūmataunga tōku iwi

Ko Rongomaraeroa-o-ngā-hau-e-whā tōku marae

Nō Rangitīkei ahau

Ko Vicky tōku ingoa

Tēnā koutou katoa

## What will we cover today?

- ⇒ Neurodiverse or neurodivergent?
- ⇒ An activity for you
- ⇒ Strategies to take away
- ⇒ Questions to reflect upon

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## The Illusion of Inclusion

Dr Nina Hood and Dr Romy Hume

P.9 – definitions

# Neurodiversity

The context:

Global

All of us



# Neurodivergent

- ⇒ Dyslexia
- ⇒ ADHD
- ⇒ Dyscalculia
- ⇒ Developmental Co-ordination Disorder (DCD, formerly referred to as Dyspraxia)
- ⇒ Autism Spectrum Disorder
- ⇒ Irlen's Syndrome

# The Bowl of Spaghetti

Dinner?

Hot?

Eat it?







## Activity

A brick is a brick  
or is it?



# Strategies

- » Do you use mixed teaching or support methods with your learners?
- » Is your teaching or support style objective, empathetic, and inclusive?
- » For my friends at UCOL, do you work with Te Atakura?
- » Are you one of my phenomenal friends from UCOL's awesome Raukura team?
- » Are you working towards, or have achieved, the DFQM?
- » Are you working towards, or have achieved, the Tapatoru Ako Professional Practice Award?

## Resources

- » LNAAT (Literacy & Numeracy Adult Assessment Tool)
- » Libraries
- » Neurodiversity Community of Practice
- » Language, Literacy & Numeracy Community of Practice
- » Manako Community of Practice
- » Tertiary Education Commission
- » Ministry of Education

## **Action today**

- » Mātauranga Māori programmes
- » Micro communities
- » The Kato Toolkit
- » AARIA projects
- » Talking to each other
- » Asking questions

## Questions for reflection

- ⇒ What might being neurodivergent feel like in this environment?
- ⇒ What is 'normal'?
  
- ⇒ What could the future look like?
- ⇒ What would being neurodivergent feel like then?

# References

- » Dyslexia Scotland. (2022). *Neurodiversity*.  
<https://dyslexiascotland.org.uk/leaflets/>
- » Hood, N. & Hume, R., (2024). *The illusion of inclusion: The experiences of neurodivergent children and those supporting them in Aotearoa New Zealand's education system*. The Education Hub.
- » Singer, J. (2017). *Neurodiversity: The birth of an idea*. Judy Singer.

# Photo references

» [www.pexels.com](http://www.pexels.com)

- ⇒ People walking on pedestrian lane during daytime – Kaique Rocha
- ⇒ Pasta on white bowl beside fork – mali maeder
- ⇒ Girls and boys playing together – Danik Prihodko

» Vicky Beckwith's collection:

- ⇒ Credentials ceremony at Government House
- ⇒ A brick on the ground