

# Te Reo

## Keeping it simple

THE #1 MISTAKE ADULT TE REO  
LEARNERS MAKE

Te Ao Hou

## #1 MISTAKE BY ADULT TE REO LEARNERS



Let's talk about a problem that I'm seeing in people that are starting to learn Maaori today. Fundamentally it comes down to what they're trying to learn at the very start of the journey and how that really can inhibit the rest of the journey and how they progressed on that journey into learning Maaori. So when people often get started, they think, alright, I'm going to start with the basics. The basics is running the start. So what are the basics. For some reason we automatically, we go straight back to the basics of a child. We get straight back to tell us, we go straight back to numbers, shapes, and animals. Now there's nothing inherently wrong with learning these things. Yes. Therefore the words are the words that will progress the vocabulary.

You feel good. They have new words and you've got to learn all these new wonderful things. Now the problem is there's a difference between how a child learns those things and how an adult learns those things. And what I believe that is is when a child is learning colors, when a child is learning shapes, when a child is learning the color blue, they're not just learning the color blue. You see as a baby, they've got a mind that is connecting information. They've got a canvas that is creating new things and they put all this stuff in the world that they need to learn. So when they're learning the color green and not just only learning the word green, they're learning how green sits within the context of the world and learning that the grass is green, that the peas they eat are green, that that car over there is green, oh...yuk! To continue...when they're learning shapes, they're learning not just the word round or a circle.