



Tinā at School



Ready to Read Phonics Plus

Whānau Notes

Your child can read the story to you.

Help them with any words they don't know.

After reading, talk about the story, characters, and pictures.

Tinā at School



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Lani wakes up to the sun shining into her bedroom. She grins as she remembers that Tinā is sleeping in the bedroom next to her. Lani can smell something good coming from the kitchen.



Lani gets up and runs to the kitchen.

“Yum. Cocoa rice for breakfast,” says Lani.

“Thank you, Tinā.

This is the best.”



Lani eats her cocoa rice
and thinks about school.
Tinā is coming to school
to teach a dance.



Mum takes Lani and Tinā to school.

“Welcome to our classroom,” says Miss Lee.

Nat and Tāne run over to meet Tinā.



Tinā teaches Lani and her classmates a dance, a song, and some Samoan words. The kids wear lāvalava, and they have fun dancing together.





At the end of the day, they perform in front of the school. All the other kids clap and cheer. “Tinā is a good dancer,” says Nat. “She is a good singer too,” says Tāne.



In the evening, they eat
sapasui and rice for dinner.
“This is a good dinner,” says Mum.
“Tinā can cook any day,”
Dad says.
“Tinā can sing and dance at
school any day too,” says Lani.

Focus points

- This book focuses on open and closed syllables in multisyllabic words, and compound words.
- Introduce the Samoan words **lāvalava** and **sapasui**.

Before reading

This book provides children with the opportunity to practise reading the letters and sounds they are learning in meaningful connected text.

Read these words

classroom

bedroom

classmate

together

remember

kitchen

Spelling

With children, read the words below and look at the first syllable of each word. Encourage them to listen to the sound of the vowel in each of the first syllables:

- remembers – over; kitchen – dinner – bedroom

Explain that the first set of syllables are open syllables with a long vowel sound. The second set of syllables are closed syllables with short vowel sounds.

Morphology

Compound words combine two words that are free morphemes to make a new word. Free morphemes are words that can also be used on their own.

An example of a compound word in this book is **classroom**. Tell children that **class** and **room** are words on their own but are combined to describe a place for teaching and learning.

Discuss how the meaning of each word contributes to the meaning of the whole compound word.

Vocabulary

Tell the children the meaning of any new vocabulary:

- **lāvalava**: an item of clothing worn by Pacific people
- **sapasui**: a Samoan meat and noodle dish

During reading

- The children read the title together. Make a connection between the title and the picture.
- The children read each page together using their decoding strategies. Once the page is read, guide them to connect the meaning of the text with the illustration.
- If a child gets stuck while reading, help them to find the meaningful units to decode the word (for example, suffixes and base words).

Samoan words

sapasui

lāvalava

Here, you could include children who speak Samoan as the language experts.

After reading

Discussion questions

- What did they have for breakfast?
- How did Lani feel about Tinā performing at her school?
- What did Tinā teach the children?

Story discussion

Lani is excited to take Tinā to school and share her culture with her classmates. Ask children if they have ever had a cultural day at school where they celebrated different cultures. What did they share and learn?

This story introduces the Samoan words **lāvalava** and **sapasui**.

Discuss with children other forms of traditional dress they may wear or have seen in their families. What traditional foods do they eat?

Children might also know siva/dance, pese/song, and koko alaisa/cocoa rice. Here, you could include Samoan-speaking children as the language experts.

Fluency and story retell

Reread the story to build accuracy and fluency; share the story with a buddy.



Rākau
Tree

Focus sounds

Multisyllabic words



Māhuri
Sapling



Tupu
Seedling



Kākano
Seed

