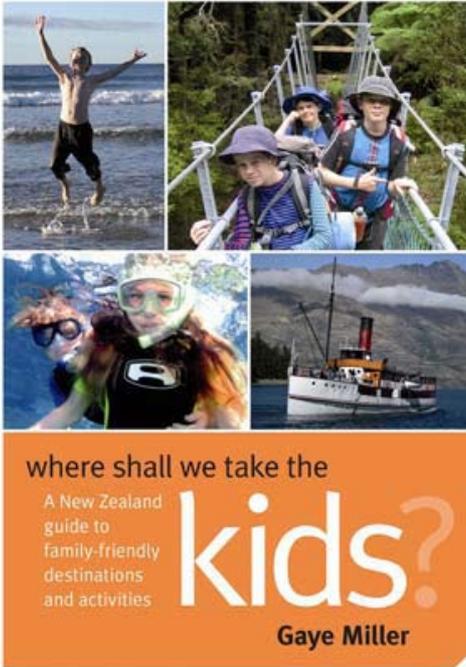


# Reach for the stars



When we are young we believe anything is possible, then as we get older the world tells us what we can and can not do. When I was young I wanted to be a writer, the problem however was that I suffered from dyslexia. I left school at 16, just getting school certificate and failing all my UE subjects. At work my colleagues brought me a dictionary because my correspondence was so bad. Today, every now and then, I still ask my children to read a word for me which looks strange. Once it has been read I know what it is and roll my eyes and wonder why I couldn't see that for myself.

So it seems somewhat strange that next week I will celebrate by first week as a published author, with my first book hitting the bookshelves around New Zealand. It's a great book, of course I would say that, but it doesn't have fancy words (I wonder why?). It's easy to read and I hope will give families lots of fun over the years to come.

But for those parents who have children who have dreams so big it hurts you because it seems an impossible goal. Please never say they can't. Tell them to reach for the stars, because anything is possible. Just look at me - I'm a mother of four, CEO of Kids Friendly New Zealand and now an author.

Author of 'Where Shall We Take The Kids? A guide to family-friendly places and destinations around New Zealand.

Kindest regards

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