

Four poems from the 'generations' workshop in 2023 for children and young people.

The future is wobbly

Rahi Key

When I think about generations,
they can be your ancestors or come after you.
The future is wobbly, and the past is solid.
I think about families passing down knowledge
and maybe the people in the future
will be learning about you too.

I am 9 years old. I live in Wellington. I like most types of writing, I like dancing, I also like playing with my dog.

My grandad

Asher Swanson

Generations
is the knowledge to understand
what my grandad knew
and what his dad knew.
What a conniption.
How can I relate?

At the end of the day
I stay on his lap,
it's where I relax
with my head on his arm,
as I close my eyes
and surrender my night.

The thing that inspired me about this poem was when I thought about my great, great auntie. I also like to write character profiles. I am 11.

Billions

Asher Carey

My mum and dad are two.
Granny, Grandad and the other two are four.
It keeps on multiplying by two.
That's how generations start.
They can go up to billions.

I am Asher Carey from Pukerua Bay. I am 7 years old. I love soccer, sports and maths and enjoy reading poems at school.

I am the newest

Maisie Key

When I think about generations
I think about my Nanima's Namima
and that German-speaking ancestor
who was thrown overboard.
I think about many people
but none of them is me.
Because I am the descendant of all these people.
I am the newest generation.

My name is Mala Maisie Key. I am 11 years old. My favorite things to do are acting, reading and making comics. I am year 6 at Berhampore School.