



# CULTURE & HISTORY OF PEKAPEKA

## Introduction

The suggested aim of this section is for students to learn about the cultural significance of Pekapeka, its history and how it is relevant today. Students will have the opportunity to research, observe and contemplate the effects our actions have on the future generations.

This resource provides information about the cultural and historical significance of Pekapeka wetland and it includes a list of books and websites suitable for students to further their knowledge of these and other topics.

Activity sheets can be manipulated and adjusted to suit the intended learning outcomes and photographs can be used as teacher aids or included in classroom activities, powerpoints and for other curricular activities.

The following activities are based on 'pre-visit', 'on site' and 'post visit' categories and can be chosen according to ages, levels, interests or needs.

1



### HISTORY

#### Non-Māori History

206 Settlement resulted in major changes for the land, water, plants and bird life here. People set about draining wetlands as these were the highly fertile parts of the landscape and good for farming. Wetlands were seen as areas of waste to be filled and then put to good use. This is what happened in parts of Pekapeka.

207 **Railway**  
In 1875, the Wellington-Napier railway line was built through the wetland. This cut through 'Island Pa' and separated part of the stream which is now a small lake.

**Roading**  
State Highway 2 was first a walking track and then a horse track, winding along the western boundary. As technology changed, the track turned into a road. In 1955 the road was straightened, cutting through the western side of the wetland.

**Rubbish**  
For a long time, it was normal practice to dump rubbish in or near wetland areas. On this site there is rubbish dating from the 1870s until as recently as the 1990s. Material from the demolished Mayfair and Pacific Hotels is still at Pekapeka, as a reminder of what we've learned about looking after our environment.

## STUDENT INFORMATION SHEETS

A set of Student Information Sheets have been prepared covering basic information on Pekapeka Wetland. These topics are by no means exhaustive and we encourage additional research through the provided links and information sources listed on the following pages.

- INFO200 Pekapeka Wetland
- INFO201 Restoration Project
- INFO204 Māori History
- INFO205 Oral History
- INFO206 Non Māori History
- INFO207 Recreation
- INFO208 Rongoa

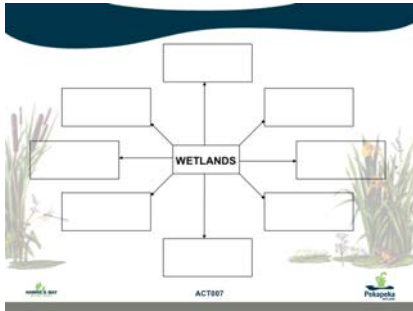


2



### PRE-VISIT ACTIVITIES

- Learn about historical fishing in wetlands (ie: pots, nets, hand dug channels, storage, hanging).
- Learn how to weave flax and the cultural aspects that are connected to it.
- Learn the different aspects of Rongoa.
- Learn about what a pa site looks like.
- As a class learn a karakia to sing when you arrive and leave Pekapeka.
- Have a discussion about why the wetland might be important to you.
- Use Activity Sheets ACT003, ACT004, ACT007, ACT008.



### FIELD DAY ACTIVITIES

- While at Pekapeka, make a list of words to describe the wetland.
- Draw a picture of Pekapeka and how it looks now. Compare it to historical images.
- Look for landmarks that you can identify from your history research.
- Imagine what it would have been like at Pekapeka wetland 100 years ago. Fill in a 'then & now' page with text and drawings.

### POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

- Write a newspaper report on the restoration work at Pekapeka.
- Create a play about the history of Pekapeka and spread the word about how to help.
- Make 'then and now' posters that illustrates what Pekapeka wetland. Discuss how it could look in the future.
- Have a debate or role play about whether it is worth restoring Pekapeka wetland from an early settlers, farmers, Maori and conservationist point of view.
- Use Activity Sheets ACT003, ACT004.

**BIRD WATCHING**

Sit quietly near the waters edge for 3 - 5 minutes... Look out for birds in the wetland. What are the birds doing? Write your observations in the table.

What bird was it?	How many were there?	Where did you see it (near)?	What was the bird doing?

ACT001

W	O	X	R	A	M	B	A	R	W	T	P	A	PEKAPEKA WETLAND HARBOR RESTORATION WATER SWAMP WETPLACES PLANT FLAX KARAKA TURTLE BIRDS WAGERS FISHING DOGS INSECTS SHELLS WHITESMART MUDFISH NATHERFISH
P	E	K	A	P	E	K	A	N	N	V	E	M	
S	N	T	Y	U	O	P	N	D	K	S	A	E	
T	E	P	L	K	O	T	F	E	B	W	T	J	
W	B	A	P	A	H	K	K	B	L	M	I	S	
E	T	X	U	F	N	O	S	I	R	T	Y	J	
T	O	E	T	O	E	D	W	B	G	J	K	L	
P	E	K	L	H	A	R	O	V	I	C	K	E	
L	A	W	A	D	E	S	S	S	X	O	N	N	
A	T	V	U	K	A	H	I	K	A	T	E	A	
C	L	A	B	E	S	T	E	Z	J	I	K	W	
S	O	I	Z	O	L	M	A	M	P	U	F	A	
S	M	N	D	W	H	I	T	E	B	A	I	T	
A	N	D	R	E	T	U	L	O	N	H	I		
O	E	T	Y	A	T	E	R	O	F	L	Y		
T	E	C	O	P	A	T	Y	T	W	O	N	E	
M	E	T	N	P	O	I	U	X	F	J	O	F	
T	E	L	S	H	O	V	A	R	N	A	W	T	
B	S	V	D	R	T	L	Y	L	O	K	H	S	
Z	X	W	U	D	F	I	B	M	T	A	N		

ACT003



## Additional Resources

### BOOKS

#### **Koro's Medicine (fiction)**

By Melanie Drewery

Ill Sabrina Malcom

Pub Huia 2004

ISBN: 9781869691028

Koro seems to have an unappetising remedy for everything, from blisters to blocked noses. But could his enthusiasm for Māori rongoa (medicine) turn out to be contagious? Includes brief factual information on Māori herbal remedies.

#### **Te Rongoa Maori Medicine**

By Pip Williams

ISBN: 0143011367

Pip Williams spent his life observing and recording the use by local Maori of native plants for medical purposes. This book brings together his observations on 43 New Zealand plants and the health problems they were used to treat, colourfully interspersed with anecdotal evidence and beautifully illustrated with watercolours and engravings.

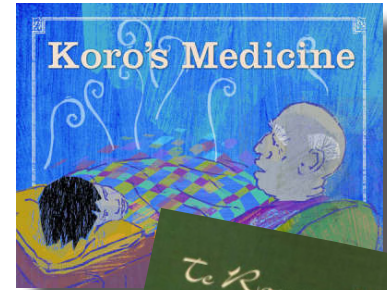
#### **Māori and the Environment : Kaitiaki**

Edited by Rachael Selby, Pātaka Moore and Malcolm Mulholland

Pub Huia 2010

ISBN: 978-1-86969-402-9

This collection of 19 articles highlights Maori perspectives and actions that Maori have taken to maintain and restore the environment.



### WEBSITES

[www.hbrc.govt.nz](http://www.hbrc.govt.nz)

[www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)

[www.landcareresearch.co.nz](http://www.landcareresearch.co.nz)

[www.teara.govt.nz](http://www.teara.govt.nz)

[www.tepapa.govt.nz](http://www.tepapa.govt.nz)

[www.newzealand.com](http://www.newzealand.com)

[www.tewhioranga.co.nz](http://www.tewhioranga.co.nz)

[www.hastingsdc.govt.nz](http://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz)

### OTHER INFORMATION SOURCES

School Journal:

Level CN No. 2, 2002. Manu tukutuku, article by Manu Kawana. Pre-European Maori used manu tukutuku (kites) for a variety of purposes. The staff of Te Manawa (the Science Centre and Manawatu Museum) made a manu kahu (hawk kite).

Part 3 No.3, 1991. Tuki's Map, article by Judith Evans. The first map of New Zealand was drawn in 1793 by Tuki, a Maori kidnapped and taken to Norfolk Island to teach the convicts how to work flax. With the map, the commander of the colony was eventually able to return Tuki to his home.

Level 02, No.3, 2005. Hauhake harakeke, article by Sue Rei. This recount describes a special celebration dedicated to the harvesting of flax planted seventeen years earlier as a community project.





IMG200



IMG201



IMG202



IMG203



IMG208



IMG209



IMG210



IMG211



IMG212



IMG213



IMG214



IMG015



IMG016



IMG217



IMG218