

Education Resource



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Introduction

About this resource

This resource aims to provide students, teachers and their communities with opportunities to grow their knowledge, skills and understanding about water so that they can use water wisely and help resolve water-related environmental challenges.

He Puna Wai is an integrated curriculum teaching resource with water in Taranaki as a context for teaching and learning. The resource links to the New Zealand Curriculum at levels 1-4 and has been developed for primary school students and teachers (Years 1-8). It is also easily adapted for use at various levels, including early childhood and secondary level.

The resource is based on current Environmental Education for Sustainability (EEfS) understandings and Guidelines for Environmental Education in New Zealand (Ministry of Education, 1999).

Overlying conceptual understandings for the resource

- All water is a single, connected entity with its own life force.
- Clean, fresh water is an important part of our lives and we need it to survive.
- We can all help to protect and preserve the health of our water.

Taranaki: He puna wai

Taranaki has no fewer than 530 named rivers and streams and 20,000km of waterways. There are 19 lakes with an area greater than 8ha and more than 1,200 wetlands in the region.

More than 300 rivers and streams flow from Mount Taranaki in a distinctive radial pattern across the ring plain. Typically, these ring plain rivers and streams are short, small and fast-flowing. Te Papakura o Taranaki acts as a huge reservoir, supplying a steady flow of water even during prolonged dry periods.

Māori perspectives

This resource incorporates Māori perspectives alongside western thinking. It weaves Māori cultural knowledge, kaupapa and te reo Māori into the learning experiences. Examples of concepts from te ao Māori that are woven through the resource are kaitiakitanga, mauri, te mana o te wai and ki uta ki tai. For more information on teaching about te ao Māori and history in the New Zealand classroom, see the Te Takanga O Te Wa history quide: http://maoribistory.tki.org.pz/ep/programme-design/te-takanga-o-te-wa-maori-history-

Te Wa history guide: <u>http://maorihistory.tki.org.nz/en/programme-design/te-takanga-o-te-wa-maori-history-guidelines-year-1-8/</u>

Integrated Inquiry cycle

This resource is based on an integrated inquiry learning cycle. The cycle is a process for guiding student directed learning and co-constructing a pathway of inquiry when learning in a sustainability context. An inquiry-learning approach crosses all curriculum areas and provides a framework to support students to plan their investigations and implement their actions.

Using the inquiry cycle

Teachers and students can follow the steps in the cycle and then select material and parts of activities from the resource materials provided to suit their needs, interests and learning pathways.

The inquiry cycle follows a thread throughout the resource and each inquiry step is described in Activity 2: Inquiry into water.

The resource is not intended to be taught from beginning to end but can serve as a pool of ideas to draw from and be inspired by.

The learning should be non-linear: only utilising the relevant parts which match your students' interests and needs.



Example unit plan

Key outcome:

Students who are working with their schools and communities to grow their knowledge, skills and understandings about water and caring for water.

Curriculum areas: Science, Social sciences, English, Mathematics, Technology, Health. Levels: I-4

Years: I-8

Overarching learning outcomes:

Connections, knowledge and understandings

Students can:

- Form personal connections to water in their local environment.
- Grow their wider understandings of water.
- Recognise the role of tangata whenua in water conservation and management.
- Learn skills to help address water issues and care for water in their lives.

Taking collective action

Students can:

- Act alongside the wider community to contribute to healthy waterways.
- Share their findings, reflect on action and celebrate success with their community.

| Values | Ecological sustainability, equity, respect, inquiry and curiosity, innovation, diversity, community and participation, aroha, kaitiakitanga, resilience. |
|------------------|--|
| Key competencies | Thinking; Using language, symbols and text; Managing self; Relating to others; Participating and contributing |
| Principles | Learning to learn, Cultural diversity, Treaty of Waitangi High expectations, Inclusion, Coherence Community engagement, Future focus |

| Lesson sequence | Q Inquiry stage/s | Curriculum links (levels 1-4) | Key concepts | Description |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Water in Taranaki | 1. Rukua: Immerse in water | Science: Planet Earth and beyond – Earth systems | Water in the Taranaki landscape Water is a precious taonga that we need to care for and look after | View an introductory slideshow about water Create a pepeha about our connections to the landscape |
| 2. Inquiry into water | 2. Pātai wai: ask about water | Integrated curriculum areas | Introducing the inquiry cycle | Wonderings and questionings about water |
| 3. Water to drink | 3. Pūhoru: Investigate and explore | Technology Nature of Technology; Characteristics of technology Social Sciences | Taranaki water supply and how water is collected and treated (brief description) | The water treatment process How water is distributed to homes and schools: the water network |
| 4. Drinking water experiment: flocculation | 3. Pūhoru: Investigate and explore | Science: Nature of Science | Understanding what flocculation/clumping is and investigating in science | Experimenting with the idea of flocculation in dirty water |
| 5. Stormwater | 3. Pūhoru: Investigate and explore | Science: Planet Earth and beyond, Nature of Science: Investigating in science, English: Listening, reading and viewing | What is stormwater and where does it go? Mauri and stormwater pollution | Investigating stormwater structures and pollution |
| 6. How much water are we using? | Whakaaro wai: Reflect and share | Science: Planet Earth and beyond, Nature of Science, Social Sciences, Mathematics: statistics | Understand how much water they are using at home Looking at water use patterns of New Plymouth residents | Water survey of how much water is used in different areas at home Investigating graphs and data of water use |
| 7. Wastewater | Pūhoru: Investigate and explore Wānanga wai- Find your flow | Science: Nature of Science: Investigating in science; Material world: Chemistry and society | Wastewater has to be treated at a wastewater treatment plant before it can be discharged and the wastewater treatment process | Experiment showing what happens if we put the wrong items into wastewater system |
| 8. Looking after our water | Whakaaro wai: Reflect and share about water Mahia wai: Act for water | Science: Nature of Science: Participating and Contributing. Health: Healthy communities and environments; People and the environment | Kaitiakitanga: looking after our water and what we can do | Implementing an environmental action to make a difference to water in the region |