



**The Kaipupu Experience** is an Education Programme brought to you by Kaipupu Sanctuary, a community-run nature reserve sanctuary located in the middle of Picton Harbour.

Kaipupu Sanctuary is offering local and visiting schools and students an opportunity to learn about local biodiversity, the native plants and birds found in this region, and what we can do to protect them and enhance their and our environment.



The aims of this Environmental Education programme are for students to develop:

- **Awareness and sensitivity** to the environment and related issues
- **Knowledge and understanding** of the local natural environment and the impact of people on it
- **Attitudes and values** that reflect feelings of concern for the environment
- **Skills** involved in identifying, investigating, and solving problems associated with environmental issues
- **A sense of responsibility and ownership** through **participation and action** as individuals, or members of groups, whānau, or iwi, in addressing environmental issues.



### **Picton Environment Centre (PEC)**

We start by offering a classroom session at the Picton Environment Centre (PEC) located at 14 Auckland St, Picton, led by Environmental Educator teacher Andrew John. Andrew will start by showing taxidermied samples of some of NZ's unique and special native birds. He will explain the reasons we protect them and how we do so through trapping of predators such as rats, stoats, possums and cats.

### **Field Trip**

Then we take a trip to Kaipupu Sanctuary by water taxi and walk around the Sanctuary with a guide so the learnings from the morning session become clear.

We look at and identify some native plant and bird species, explain why they are so special, explain the history and development of Kaipupu Sanctuary and how and why it exists. We talk about the work volunteers do and how important the Marlborough community is to the running of the sanctuary.

## The Kaipupu Experience Programme

**9.30am** – Join us at the PEC (Picton Environment Centre) where Environmental Education teacher Andrew John will show samples of the range of NZ native birds found in the Marlborough area and throughout NZ.



Andrew explains the reasons why NZ birds are so special and why we need to protect them. He then looks at some of the predators, how they are so dangerous to native birds and explains some of the ways that we try to control them.



## **Walk to the foreshore for morning tea**

**10.30** Catch a water taxi for 15-minute boat ride to Kaipupu Sanctuary.

**10.45** Arrive at Kaipupu Sanctuary where a guide will introduce the group to Kaipupu to take a tour around the sanctuary. We look at native birds and trees, weta hotels, penguin nesting boxes, and see plenty of traps in the field. We taste some native plants, learn to identify some poisonous ones, and listen to the sound made by moa thousands of years ago. The discussion is fluid and flowing to cover the topics of interest and the ages of the students.

**Option 1** – 40-50 minutes - if short of time or weather is bad the group can take a 40-minute return walk to the lookout at the northern end of the Sanctuary to see the views of Tōtaranui/Queen Charlotte Sound. We discuss the vegetation on the way, birds that we might see, and observe some traps in the field.

**Option 2** – (1.5-2 hours - preferred) – walk the complete loop track of 2.7km which shows the range of vegetation in the Sanctuary, see the predator proof fence, look for penguins in nesting boxes and weta in the weta hotels, compare old growth forest to younger regenerating forest to illustrate the bush succession process.

**12.40** Lunch at the jetty on return from walk

**1.00pm** Water taxi trip back to Picton.

These times are suggestions only and can be altered to suit your timetable or age and ability of students.

## **Cost**

There is no cost to the school if you successfully apply to [Port Marlborough Sounds Discovery Fund](#). Port Marlborough have generously provided some funds to pay for the water taxi and any transport to Picton which might be required to take part in this day. Please contact Connie at Port Marlborough on [connie.smith@pmnz.co.nz](mailto:connie.smith@pmnz.co.nz) for details.

## **Further Information**

Please feel free to contact Kaipupu Sanctuary for further information, answers to queries, or to discuss available dates. We are very flexible and can easily adjust the programme to suit your times, circumstances, and classroom teaching topics.

We look forward to hearing from you and we are really excited about introducing your students to Kaipupu Sanctuary.

Anna Polson - Kaipupu Sanctuary Manager

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