

Activity Title:

Coastal Wildlife Overview – Who can be found in the dunes?

Focusing questions

What wildlife can be found in Bay of Plenty sand dunes?

Resources required

- A story about sand dune dwellers (either use your own, or one such as 'Band of Sand' by Angie Belcher, or 'Danger at Sandy Bay' by David McMillan)
- Species list (Teacher resource sheet)

Prior learning

None needed but the following could work well:

- 1c Beach diagram
- 1e Beach sketch

Method

- 1 Tell a story about sand dune dwellers.
- 2 Pair share – what did you learn?
- 3 Talk about the dunes and the different creatures that are found there.
- 4 Ask students to go home and talk to whānau about the different animals that can be found in local sand dunes. Bring back whānau stories to share.
5. The next day – pair share stories from your whānau.
6. As a class, make a list of 'animals we have seen in the sand dunes' and share stories. List these in both English and te reo Māori (a species list including English and Māori names is provided as a teacher resource).
7. Select one animal and have students draw it, write its English and Māori name.
8. Depending on student level do one or more of the following:
 - In English or te reo Māori write a sentence about this animal
 - Write your own story about this animal
 - Label its different parts
 - Write questions about the animal – things you want to know.
9. Select one animal and have students make a model of it out of plasticine or similar.

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Environmental Education Aspect:

About the environment

Environmental Education Concept:

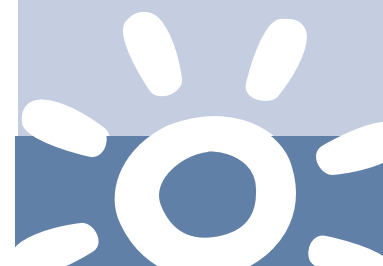
- Biodiversity
- Interdependence

Curriculum Links:

- Science
- Social Science

Suggested Curriculum Level:

Level 1 – 4



10. Inquiry and reflection – consider:

- What do we know?
- What do we want to know?
- How are we going to find out?
- What have we learnt?

Possible next steps

- Select and view short video clips of coastal wildlife from DOC's 'Meet the Locals' series.
www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/conservation-activities/meet-the-locals-videos/all-meet-the-locals-videos/
- Activity 2g (ii) Field trip to local sand dunes
- Activity 2i Interrelationships – dune plants and animals
- Activity 2j Species lost from the beach
- Activity 2l (i) Dune Community Bingo



Species list

This list may be used as a guide for some of the native wildlife found along the Bay of Plenty coastline (associated with dunes). Note that the list is not comprehensive.

Whilst most common species are included, some rare species are also listed. Some species may also be found in other habitats, not just open sandy coast.

| COMMON NAME, MĀORI NAME | SCIENTIFIC NAME | NATIVE OR ENDEMIC | NZ THREAT CLASSIFICATION |
|---|---|-------------------|--|
| MAMMALS | | | |
| New Zealand fur seal, Kekenō | <i>Arctocephalus forsteri</i> | Native | Not threatened (recovering) |
| BIRDS | | | |
| Northern New Zealand dotterel, Tūturiwhatu | <i>Charadrius obscurus aquilonius</i> | Endemic | Nationally vulnerable |
| Banded dotterel, Tūturiwhatu, Pohowera | <i>Charadrius bicinctus</i> | Endemic | Nationally vulnerable |
| Variable oystercatcher, Tōrea pango | <i>Haematopus unicolor</i> | Endemic | At risk - recovering |
| Red-billed gull, Tarāpunga, Akiaki | <i>Larus novaehollandiae scopulius</i> | Native | Nationally vulnerable |
| Black-billed gull, Tarāpuka | <i>Larus bulleri</i> | Endemic | Nationally critical |
| Southern black-backed gull, Karoro | <i>Larus dominicanus</i> | Native | Not threatened |
| White-fronted tern, Tara | <i>Sterna striata</i> | Native | At risk - declining |
| Caspian tern, Taranui | <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i> | Native | Nationally vulnerable |
| Little blue penguin, Kororā | <i>Eudyptula minor</i> | Native | At risk - declining |
| REPTILES | | | |
| Common gecko, Mokomoko | <i>Woodworthia maculatus</i> | Endemic | Not threatened (declining on mainland) |
| Copper skink, Mokomoko | <i>Oligosoma aeneum</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| Shore skink, Mokomoko | <i>Oligosoma smithi</i> | Endemic | Not threatened (declining on mainland) |
| Moko skink, Mokomoko | <i>Oligosoma moco</i> | Endemic | At risk - relict |
| BEE TL ES AND BUGS | | | |
| Large sand scarab, Mumutawa pango, Ngungutawa | <i>Pericoptus truncatus</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| Tiger beetle, Pāpapa | <i>Cicindela tuberculata</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| Seaweed darkling beetle, Pāpapa | <i>Chaerodes trachyscelides</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| New Zealand seashore earwig, Matā | <i>Anisolabis littorea</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| FLYING INSECTS | | | |
| Common copper butterfly, Pepe para riki, Pūrerehua | <i>Lycaena salustius</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| Migratory locust, Kapakapa | <i>Locusta migratoria</i> | Migratory | Not threatened |
| Black cockroach hunter wasp, Wāpi | <i>Tachysphex nigerrimus</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| Beach stiletto fly, Ngaro | <i>Megathereva bilineata</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| Sand fly/midges, Namu | <i>Austrosimulium spp</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| SPIDERS | | | |
| Katipo spider, Katipō | <i>Latrodectus katipo</i> | Endemic | Nationally critical |
| Seashore wolf spider, Pūngāwerewere | <i>Anoteropsis litoralis</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| OTHER COASTAL INVERTEBRATES | | | |
| Sandhopper, Mōwhitiwhiti, Namu Māwhitiwhiti, Potipoti | <i>Corophium acutum, Talorchestia quoyana</i> | Endemic | Not threatened |
| Giant centipede, Weri, Hara | <i>Cormocephalus rubriceps</i> | Endemic | Threatened |
| Dune snail | <i>Succinea archeyi</i> | Endemic | (Possibly extinct in BOP) |

