

Activity Title:

New Zealanders and the beach

Focusing questions

What relationship do New Zealanders have with the beach?

How do New Zealanders use beaches?

Resources required

- Pens
- Paper

Prior learning

1b Beach brainstorm

3c How we feel about and value the beach

Method

- 1 The objective of this activity is to think about the relationship that we New Zealanders have with the beach.
- 2 In small groups or as a class consider the following:

***New Zealand begins
with the sea
and ends
with the seas.***

The thundering surf is our frontier.

by Maurice Shadbolt. What do these two sentences mean to you as a New Zealander? Do you agree or disagree?

- 3 Brainstorm how New Zealanders use the beach. Consider how the beach is used as part of our daily lives, holidays, for leisure, for development and how it is expressed in our culture and the arts. Create a mind map of new learning.
- 4 Questions for discussion and reflection:
 - Why do New Zealanders have such a close relationship with the beach?
 - What would it be like if you had been brought up in the Indian Himalayas and were seeing the beach for the first time?
 - Do you think your relationship with the beach is typical of many other New Zealanders?

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Environmental Education Aspect:

About the environment

Environmental Education Concept:

- Interdependence
- Sustainability

Curriculum Links:

- English
- Social Science
- Health and PE

Suggested Curriculum Level:

Any

SUSTAINABILITY TIP!

You could use scrap or recycled paper to conduct this activity!



Possible next steps

- 3e Kiwiana and the beach – an activity that builds on this one and uses symbols of New Zealand culture to explore New Zealanders' relationship with the beach.
- Visit the AA website and play the short video clip of 101 things New Zealanders must do. How many times does the coast feature in this clip? (<http://www.aatravel.co.nz/101-must-dos-for-kiwis/>) OR do the same exercise with any New Zealand promotional clip.
- Find examples Aotearoa poetry, songs, art, stories, speeches and plays that convey New Zealanders' relationship with the beach.
- 3f Worldwide examples – how people use beaches.
- 3g Case study – East coast.