

Activity Title:

Reducing human impacts

Focusing question

What actions can we take to reduce human impact on sand dunes?

Resources required

- Large sheets of A3 paper
- Pens
- Teacher table of some dune protection and enhancement possibilities – page 221

Prior learning

- 2j Species lost from the beach
- 3a Changing New Zealand beach use
- 3b Parts of the beach and human activities
- 3d New Zealanders and the beach
- 5a The past – how have people affected beaches?
- 5c Positive and negative beach use posters
- 5d Photo montage – human impact on dunes

Method

- 1 Having looked at the impacts of human activity on the beach environment, the objective of this activity is to begin thinking about what can be done to reduce negative and increase positive impacts on the beach environment.
- 2 In groups, using a large sheet of paper to record ideas, brainstorm answers to the following:
 - What can individuals, groups and communities do to reduce the impact of their activities and enhance the beach environment?
 - How is 'collective impact' part of the problem and 'Ngā mahi tahi – working together as one' the answer?
- 3 After ten minutes of brainstorming ask groups to report back their answers. These can be collated as a class (some possible answers are provided in the table of possible dune protection and enhancement possibilities).
- 4 Students can record answers in their exercise books.

Activity Title:

Reducing human impacts

Environmental Education Aspect:

About the environment

Environmental Education Concept:

- Sustainability
- Personal and social responsibility for action

Curriculum Links:

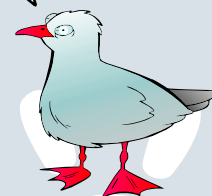
- Social Science

Suggested Curriculum Level:

Any

SUSTAINABILITY TIP!

Use scrap or recycled paper for this activity and save paper.



- 5 As a class explore the meaning and implications of the following whakataukī in the context of sand dune conservation:

He ora te whakapiri, he mate te whakatākiri
Survival by sticking together, disaster in separation

Possible next steps

- 6b Dune use management and different parts of the beach – an activity aimed at developing a basic beach activity plan determining what activities can be done on different parts of the beach.
- 6f Coast Care jigsaw – an activity that uses jigsaw puzzles and discussion around the Coast Care Code to reinforce learning about how we can help protect dunes.
- 6m Developing a plan of action to protect the local beach – an action oriented activity requiring reflection on what has been learnt during this unit of study and the development of a plan of action for conservation of a local dune system.



Teacher table of some dune protection and enhancement possibilities

Individual

- Join Coast Care
- Do not walk, drive, ride or sandboard on dune plants
- Use beach accessways
- Let others know if their behaviour is damaging the dunes
- Be a good role model to others

Group

(See your local Coast Care person for assistance)

- Build walkways
- Re-plant dune plants
- Sprinkle fertiliser on dune plants
- Remove pest plants
- Remove pest animals
- Fence off fragile dune vegetation
- Lobby Councils to reduce erosion caused by stormwater outlets at the beach or keep residential development well back from the dune
- Encourage beach front houses to plant native dune plants

Community

- Support Coast Care and respect the work they have done
- Support Councils who support Coast Care
- Lobby Councils about subdivisions and developments that may harm the dunes, such as make submissions on resource consents