



Issue 45 - December 2010

# BAY OF PLENTY

## Our Special Place



### Kia ora my pollution busting friends!

Summer is here! To a lot of us summer means being outside at our lakes/rivers/beaches having fun in the sun!

This newsletter we are focusing on 'The Bay of Plenty – Our Special Place'. Check out page 11 to find out how you can share your special place with us. Your stories/photos/drawings could be featured in our next issue.

Here in the Bay of Plenty we are lucky because we have an amazing coastline as well as a number of lakes, rivers and native bush walks!

Thanks to everyone who entered our mangrove colouring competition. We had HEAPS of entries – well done everyone! Find out if you are one of the lucky winners on page 11.

Coming into the Christmas and summer period make sure you keep thinking of fun, sustainable ways you can enjoy the festive season. And remember to be safe and slip, slop, slap and wrap when having fun in our sunny region.

Merry Christmas and happy summer from all the team here. See you in 2011!

Tiakina tonu a Ranginui raua ko Papatūānuku /  
Keep protecting our Sky Father and Earth Mother

From your friend BuzzBOP and the whole  
Pollution Busters team

# Our Place

The Bay of Plenty is our place – it's where we live and play. The region stretches from Waihi Beach in the west to Lottin Point in the east, and inland through to Rangitaiki in the Taupō District.

There are lots of fun places to see and things to do in the Bay of Plenty and there is such a range of natural places to enjoy, including lakes, rivers, parks, estuaries, geothermal areas, ocean and bush.

## Regions within the Bay of Plenty Region!

Did you know there are regions in the Bay of Plenty region? They are the western Bay of Plenty (centred on Tauranga), eastern Bay of Plenty (centred on Whakatāne), and Rotorua.

The Bay also has a wide range of areas:

- The sea (including the off shore islands)
- Along the coast there are beaches, dunes, harbours, estuaries and wetlands
- Bush
- Lakes
- Geothermal zones
- Urban areas
- Farmland

### Can you help Buzz BOP

unscramble the place names?

Waāahektn

\_\_\_\_\_

Mūaekt

\_\_\_\_\_

TPekeu

\_\_\_\_\_

Tnguaraa

\_\_\_\_\_

Ōkiōpti

\_\_\_\_\_

Egubedecm

\_\_\_\_\_

Krauawe

\_\_\_\_\_

Kitikaat

\_\_\_\_\_

Mtatāa

\_\_\_\_\_

Oaiom

\_\_\_\_\_

Mnout Mnuiganau

\_\_\_\_\_

Tikauro

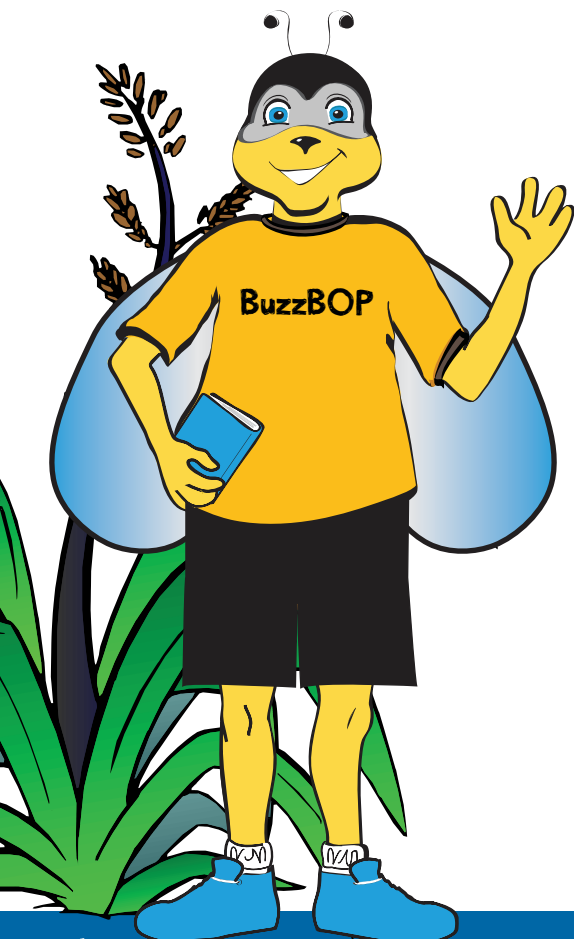
\_\_\_\_\_

Rurotoa

\_\_\_\_\_

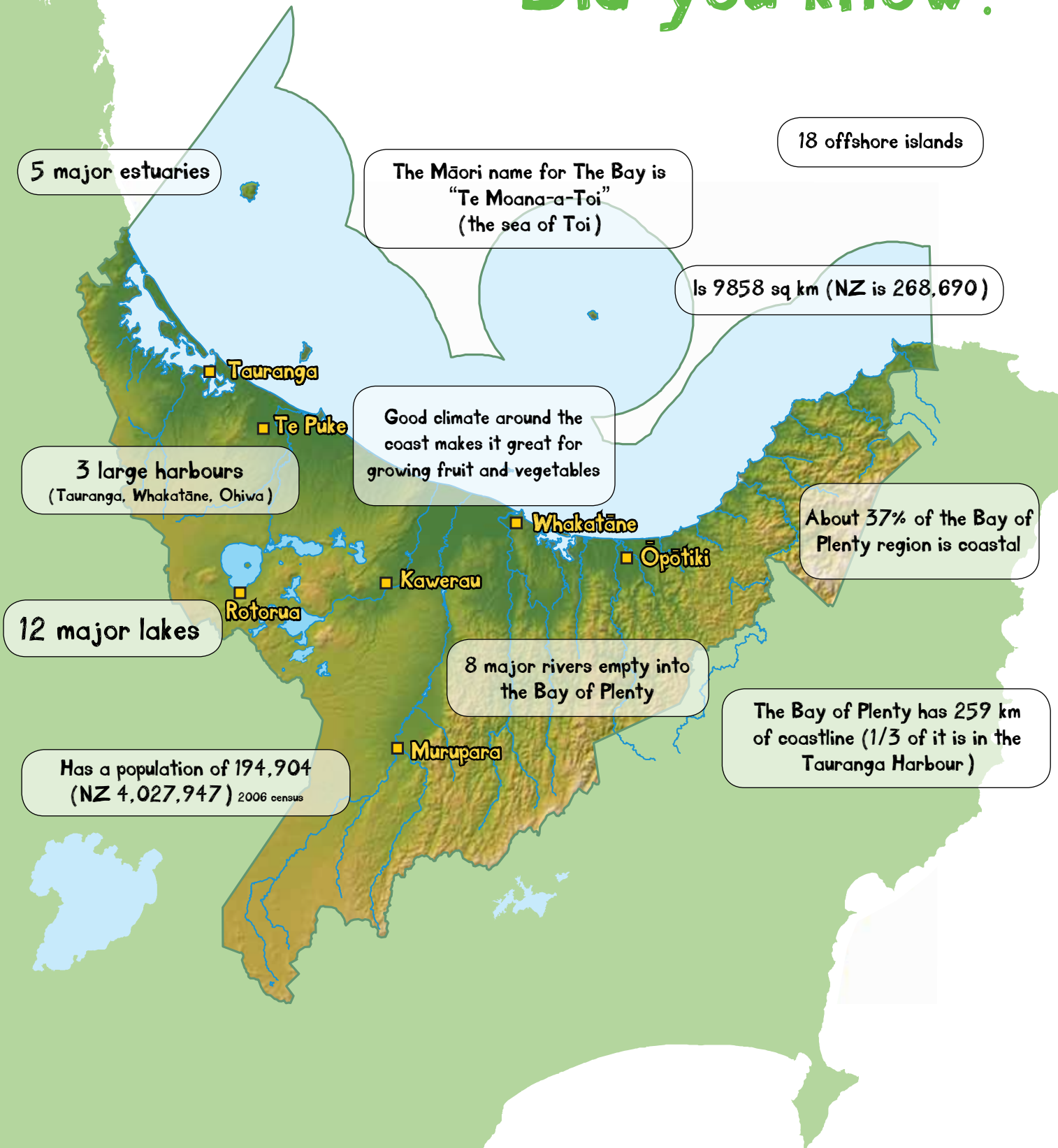
Mraurupa

\_\_\_\_\_



# Bay of Plenty Facts

## Did you know?



### What does it mean?

**Harbour:** A safe sheltered place for boats to stop. | **Estuary:** the wide part of a river where it nears the sea and salt and fresh water mix. | **Lake:** A big area of water with land all around it | **Population:** All the people who live in a place



# Names of the Bay of Plenty

## How Whakatane got its name

When the Mataatua canoe landed near the site of present-day Whakatāne, the men went ashore. While they were gone, the canoe began to drift out to sea. Ngāti Awa tradition says that Wairaka, the daughter of the captain Toroa, took a paddle and cried, 'Me whakatāne au i ahau nei!' (I must act like a man!). She and the other women saved the canoe. Wairaka is now commemorated by a statue on a rock at Whakatāne.



Several places in the Bay of Plenty are known by their Māori and English names. Can you help BuzzBOP match them up?

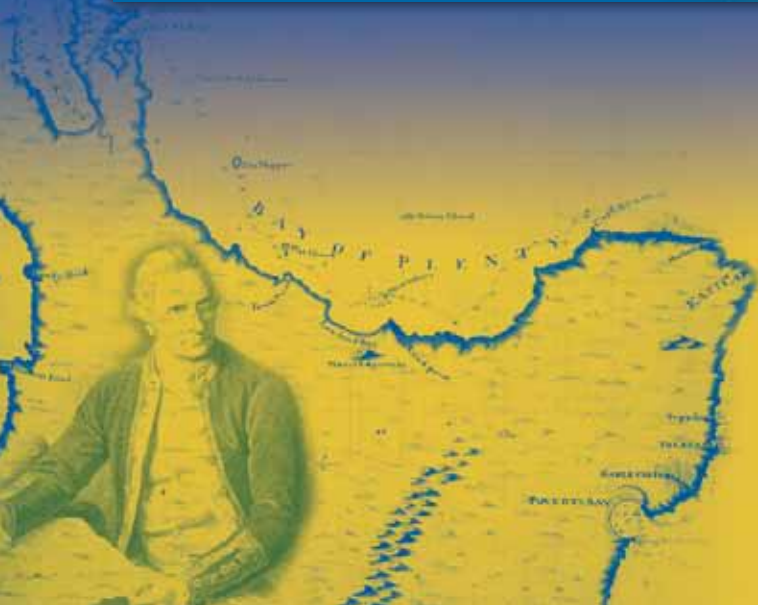
Mt Maunganui	Pūtauaki
Mt Edgecumbe	Moutohora
Mayor Island	Whakaari
White Island	Tūhua
Whale Island	Mauāo

Answers: Mt Maunganui/Mauāo, Mt Edgecumbe/Pūtauaki, Mayor Island/Tūhua, White Island/Whakaari, Whale Island/Moutohora



## Mt Maunganui

According to legend the mountain once lay inland. Spurned (turned down) by the beautiful mountain Pūwhenua, it begged the fairy-like creatures of the forest to drag it into the ocean. As they neared the water's edge dawn broke, and the fairies fled, leaving the mountain caught forever in the light of day. Thereafter it was known as Mauao (Mau – 'caught', ao – 'light of day'). Later it was renamed Maunganui in memory of a similar mountain in Hawaiki, the Polynesian homeland of the Māori.



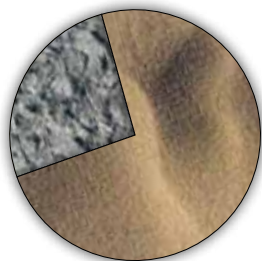
## Who named the Bay of Plenty?

The Bay of Plenty was given its name by Captain James Cook who circumnavigated (sailed around) New Zealand in his ship the Endeavour in 1769. He called it the Bay of Plenty because of the plentiful resources he found there (food, timber, fresh water).

# Our Coast

Our regional coastline can be divided into four areas:

- Sandy coast stretching from Waihi Beach to Ōpape (with some rocky bits).
- Rocky coast running from Ōpape to just beyond Cape Runaway.
- Offshore islands which include the following: Karewa, Mayor/ Tuhua, Mōtītī, Motu Kaimeanui, Motu Papaki, Motuhaku, Moutohora/Whale, Motukotare, Motunau, Motunui, Motuotau, Moutoki, Otarawhata, Rurima, Te Huke, Tokata, Volkner Islets and White/Whakaari.
- Harbours and estuaries including the Tauranga Harbour, Maketū Estuary, Waihi Estuary, Whakatāne Harbour, Ohiwa Harbour and Waiōtahi Estuary.



74% of the mainland open coast is sandy and 26% rocky

## Coastline Wordfind

R	Q	U	E	P	S	A	N	D	J	I	U	P
C	G	S	U	R	F	Z	L	D	O	R	O	K
M	S	Y	K	C	O	R	R	E	I	X	P	J
D	E	R	O	H	S	E	R	O	F	N	I	X
W	F	K	A	O	R	E	H	O	T	I	R	Z
I	M	A	N	U	S	T	R	P	P	I	U	W
Z	X	P	I	N	G	A	O	T	L	H	M	U
K	A	T	I	P	O	M	M	M	U	A	I	L
L	E	X	E	S	T	U	A	R	Y	H	P	W
J	I	N	V	K	X	E	F	I	N	I	P	S
A	N	A	O	M	I	A	K	K	M	V	Y	E
P	L	E	R	E	T	T	O	D	A	X	U	E
N	D	N	D	U	Q	V	C	Y	E	N	U	D

Pingao  
Dune  
Tsunami  
Foreshore  
Kaimoana

Spinifex  
Dotterel  
Sand  
Toheroa  
Estuary

Katipo  
Rocky  
Surf

## How can you help our coast?

When you're out enjoying our region's beaches this summer follow these six simple steps to reduce your impact on the fragile dune system. Encourage other beach users to do the same!

### 1. Look for the Signs

Signs show you the best and fastest way to the beach. Use the marked paths and sand ladders so the plants can grow safely in the other areas.

### 2. Respect the Fences

Fences protect dune plants. Keep to your side of the fence to let plants grow.

### 3. Surf the waves not the dunes

Sandboarding on the dunes destroys plants, loosens the sand and causes erosion – so don't do it!

### 4. Keep Motorbikes and other vehicles off the dunes

Motorbikes can easily crush important plants and birds that live in the dunes. Please use the vehicle access tracks if you are using a vehicle – or better yet use your feet instead!

### 5. Look after the Plants

Feet kill plants. Coastal native plants hold the sand together so the dunes can build up. Dunes protect our land and houses during storms and provide homes for insects, birds and lizards.

### 6. Look after the Dunes

Sandy beaches are great places to have fun. Look after the dunes so that we can keep our fantastic beaches for years to come.





# OUR SPECIAL LAKES

There are 12 major lakes in the Rotorua region, all of volcanic origin. The water quality ranges from oligotrophic (excellent) to supertrophic (very poor). Lake Tarawera is an oligotrophic lake while Lake Okaro is a supertrophic lake. Which one would you like to swim in?

The Rotorua/Te Arawa Lakes are popular for summer fun and are a taonga (treasure) to the people of Te Arawa. Our lakes in the Bay of Plenty are important to New Zealanders and are treasured natural assets of great beauty.

The term Rotorua / Te Arawa Lakes refers to the twelve large lakes managed through the Rotorua Lakes Protection and Restoration Action Programme. This is a programme where we are working to help improve our lakes, and make sure they stay healthy.

The lakes are:

- Lake Rotorua
- Lake Tarawera
- Lake Rotoiti
- Lake Rotomā
- Lake Rotoehu
- Lake Ōkataina
- Lake Rotokakahi (Green Lake)
- Lake Rotomahana
- Lake Rerewhakaaitu
- Lake Tikitapu (Blue Lake)
- Lake Ōkareka
- Lake Ōkaro

## Bathing quality...

Our Rotorua lakes are beautiful. But when there is too much algae, the water is not safe to swim in, drink or touch. Look after yourself this summer...

If the water is milky green, best to stay dry and clean  
If in doubt, stay out

## What's the meaning?

Use the list of words and translations on the right to help you.

Mesotrophic \_\_\_\_\_

Oligotrophic \_\_\_\_\_

Rotoiti \_\_\_\_\_

Eutrophic \_\_\_\_\_

Rotorua \_\_\_\_\_

Tarawera \_\_\_\_\_

trophic	food or eating
oligo	not a lot of
meso	medium amount of
eu	a lot of
tara	chasm (deep opening or gap)
wera	hot
o	of
kata	laughter
rua	two, both, second
roto	lake
iti	little



You can check the water quality before you go swimming at  
<http://www.envbop.govt.nz/Environment/Swimming-Water-Quality.aspx>



# Keep our special lakes free of aquatic pests - Say NO to hitchhikers on your boat!

Some lakes are infested with submerged (underwater) weed beds. These weeds can sprout from a single piece of weed and spread quickly.

They take over the native lake plant beds which are home to many native species, and replace them with dense, thick, tall, weed material. The good news is that some lakes are free of these weeds. The bad news is that it only takes a fragment of weed stuck on a boat or propeller to start a new infestation.

This summer to stop the spread of aquatic pests, follow the Check, Clean, Dry actions if moving from one lake or river to another.

**CHECK** and remove weed from anything that has been in the water.

**CLEAN** everything for at least one minute with a 5 percent detergent solution.

**DRY** everything completely for at least 2 days. This is really important if you are boating in more than one lake, for example moving from Lake Rotoehu to Lake Rotoma.



## STOP<sup>the</sup> SPREAD

Protect our waters from aquatic hitchhikers.  
Remove all waterweed from boats and recreational equipment when leaving waterways.



Answers to word meanings: Mesotrophic - a medium amount of food; Oligotrophic - not a lot of food; Rototi - small lake; Eutrophic - a lot of food; Rotorua - second lake; Tarawera - hot chasm





Put on a lifejacket before you get in a boat

**START**

Plant a seedling

Surf the waves not the dunes

Go for a hike - take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprints

Catch a stoat

Join a care group, and plant some dune plants

Take a ride on the Bay Hopper

Pick some berries

Clean your boat to stop the spread of aquatic hitchhikers

release a kiwi

Go for a bush walk

Check out a geyser

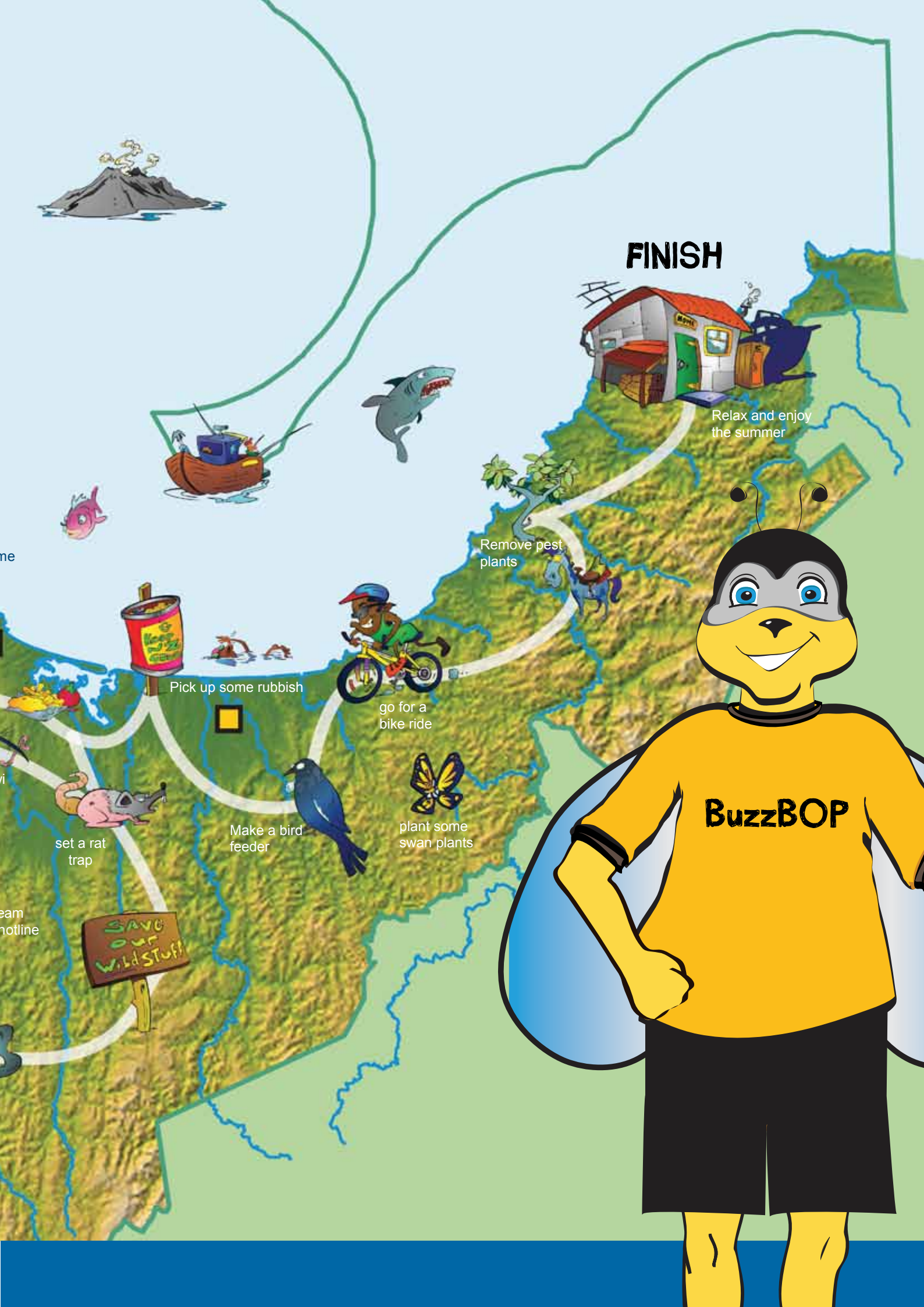
Find a polluted stream - call the pollution hotline

Take an adventure through the Bay of Plenty. Start in the Western Bay and see how many different ways you can get to the finish on the East Coast.

Get rid of possums

Plant a tree





**FINISH**

Relax and enjoy  
the summer

Remove pest  
plants

Pick up some rubbish

go for a  
bike ride

plant some  
swan plants

Make a bird  
feeder

set a rat  
trap

**BuzzBOP**

SAVE  
our  
WildSTUFF!



# Be brighter than the sun!

When you are out and about this summer remember to:

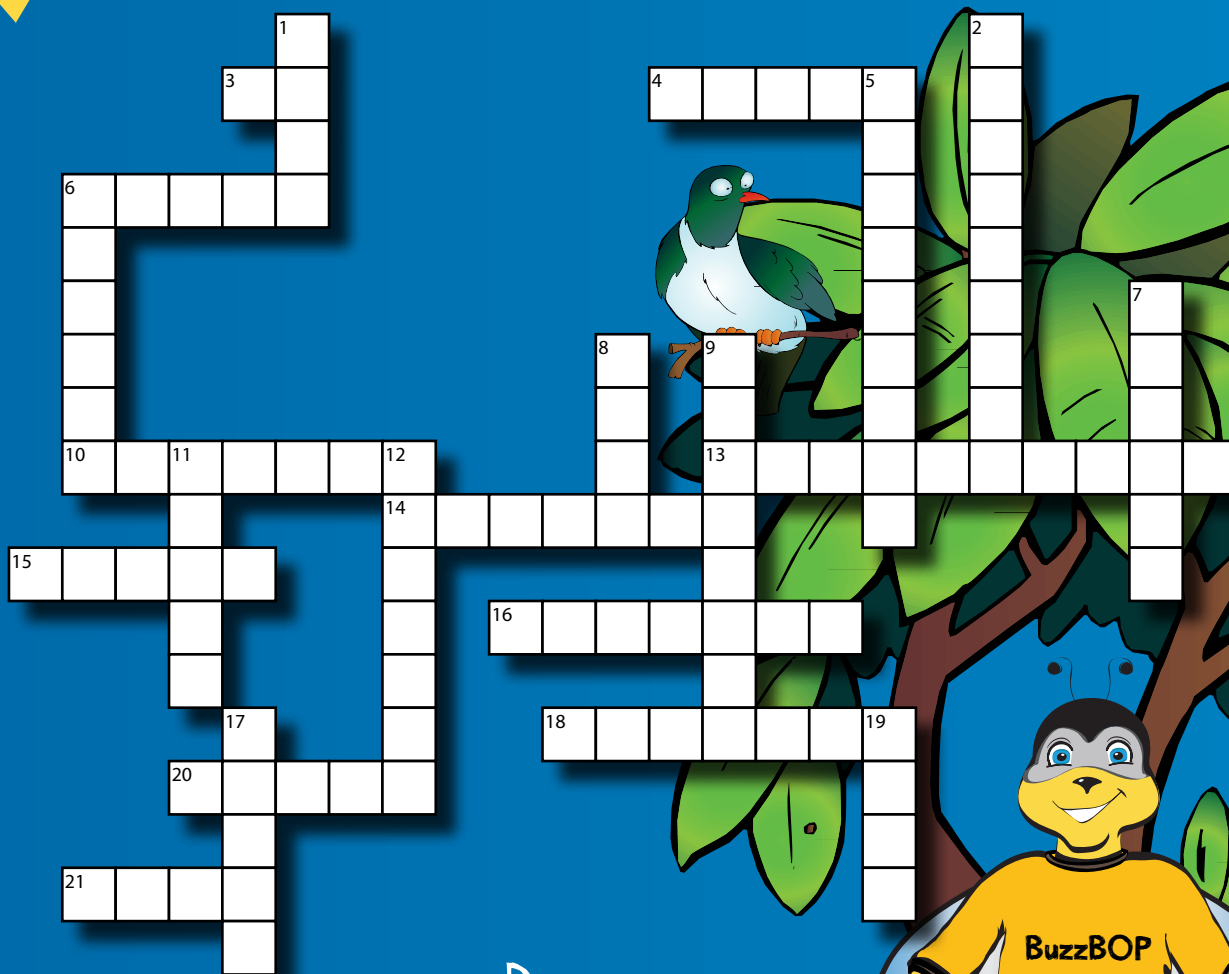
**SLIP** on a t-shirt

**SLOP** on some sunscreen

**SLAP** on a hat

**WRAP** on some sunglasses

## CROSSWORD

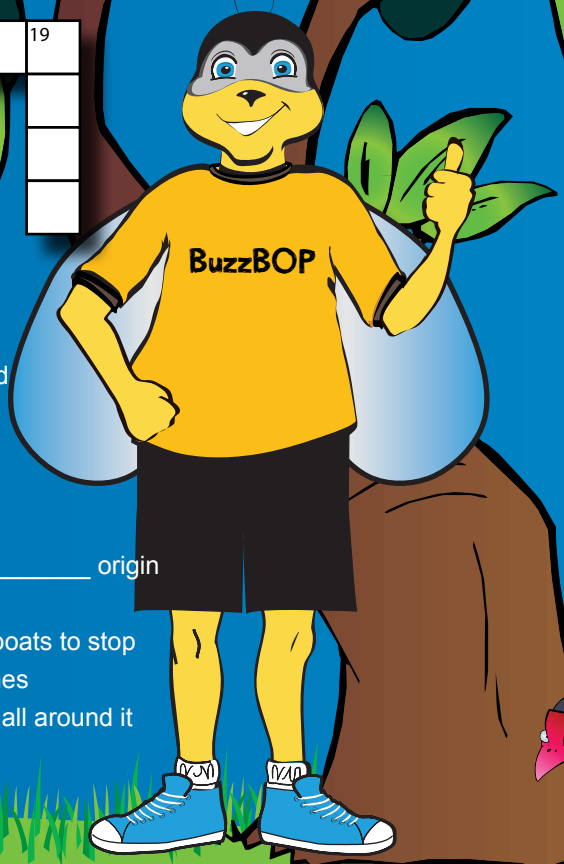


### Across

3. say \_\_\_ to hitchhikers on your boat
4. Captain \_\_\_\_\_ Cook named the Bay of Plenty
6. slip on a t-\_\_\_\_\_
10. things we can't recycle that we put in a bin
13. wear it when you are in a boat
14. protect our lakes from \_\_\_\_\_ hitchhikers
15. check, \_\_\_\_\_, dry
16. people we like
18. Our \_\_\_\_\_ place - The Bay of Plenty
20. it is wet
21. provides shade

### Down

1. a type of water vehicle
2. Maori name for Whale Island
5. slop on some of this
6. the hot season
7. stop the \_\_\_\_\_
8. north, south, east, \_\_\_\_\_
9. the Rotorua lakes are from \_\_\_\_\_ origin
11. a sandy place
12. a safe sheltered place for boats to stop
17. surf the \_\_\_\_\_, not the dunes
19. big area of water with land all around it





## Pollution Busters Competition Corner

# WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT THE BAY OF PLENTY TO YOU?

During the summer holidays think about what's special to you in the Bay of Plenty. Send your stories, poems, photos or drawings to BuzzBOP and the team and we will feature some in our next newsletter. All entries must be in by the end of February 2011. Send to: **Pollution Busters Club**, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Freepost Bay of Plenty Regional Council, PO Box 364, Whakatāne 3158.

## MIGHTY MANGROVES

colouring competition winners

Well done to everyone that entered our colouring in competition, there were so many awesome entries.

**The winners are:**

**Under 6**

Layla McIntosh - Tauranga

**Under 9**

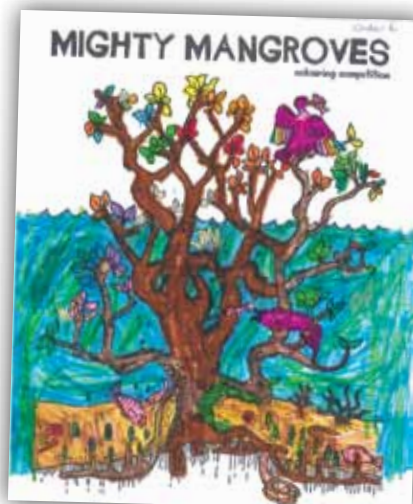
Suzannah Wilson - Whakatāne

**Under 12**

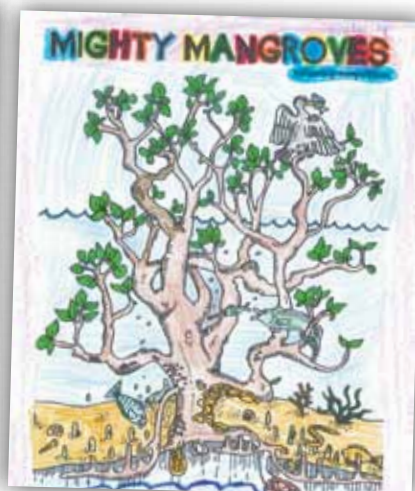
Matthew Marshall - Tauranga

**12 and over**

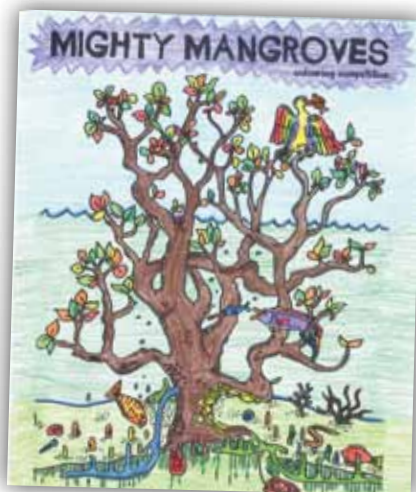
Renee Holden - Rotorua



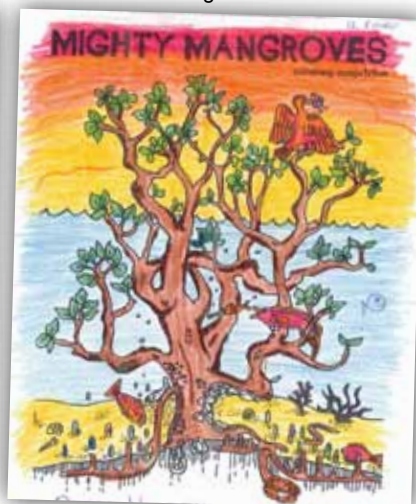
Layla McIntosh - Tauranga  
Age 5



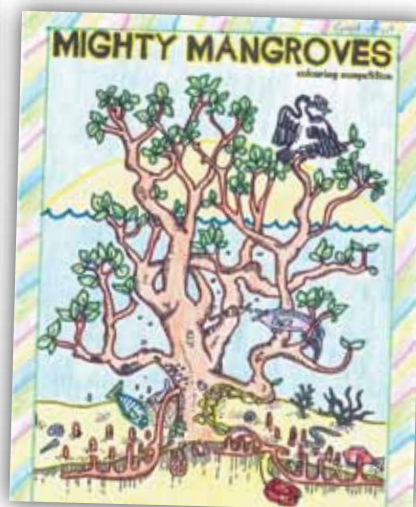
Suzannah Wilson - Whakatāne  
Age 8



Matthew Marshall - Tauranga  
Age 10



Renee Holden - Rotorua  
Age 13



Great Effort!  
Sophie Barker - Tauranga  
Age 10

# BuzzBOP's Friend

Jackie Bartlett - Community Relations Administration Officer



## What do you do?

I help out wherever I can with the Community Relations Team. This can be from mail outs to helping with large corporate events. I update the Pollution Busters database and had the tough job this month of judging the Mighty Mangroves colouring competition.

## What do you like best about your job?

The variety and working with lots of people across the organisation and community.

## What's special about the Bay of Plenty to you?

I love taking my two daughters on picnics around the Bay of Plenty's parks and beaches. We love going to Pāpāmoa Beach; as this is just up the road from where we live. We are so lucky and often spend a whole day building sandcastles and having lots of fun.

## Do you have any messages for Pollution Busters?

Don't forget to take all your rubbish and toys home after a fun day at the beach - we can all make a difference to keep our beaches clean. Also, be safe, and swim between the flags!

☀ = sun    👁 = eye    †† = friends    🐝 = be

Have fun in the ☀. Keep an 👁 on your †† and the environment. 🐝 happy, 🐝 safe this summer while out in our special place, the Bay of Plenty.  
See you in 2011, Keep on pollution busting!



## Pollution Busters join up or change of address here...

Please have an adult check that the details are correct before this is sent.

- ☐ I am a new Pollution Buster  
☐ I am already a Pollution Buster but I have changed my address

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ day / month / year

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(Postcode)

## BuzzBOP & Team

Freepost Bay of Plenty  
Regional Council  
PO Box 364  
Whakatāne 3158  
buzzbop@envbop.govt.nz

Write your name, age and address on your letters and on the back of your artwork.

## Have you moved and changed address?

If you have moved and changed address, please write to us so we can make sure you get your newsletter.