



ISSUE 72 - SPRING 2017

# Te Ao Māori

The Māori world





# Kia ora Pollution Busters

BuzzBOP and the team hope you had a great term at school. It's great that the days are getting longer and warmer; and all the spring flowers are out... summer is just around the corner!

This issue we are learning about Te Ao Māori – The Māori World. Enter the Tānemahuta colouring competition on page 11 – it was designed by a local Bay of Plenty artist, Jordan Schick.

Our Civil Defence impact for this issue is NO WAI (WATER). Do you know what actions you should take? Check them out on the back page.

Send BuzzBOP a letter or email to let him know what great pollution busting things you have been up to, you might even appear on our club page.

We hope you have a wonderful break and enjoy spending time with whānau and friends.

Tiakina tona a Ranginui rāua ko Papatūānuku – keep protecting our sky father and earth mother.

From BuzzBOP and the Pollution Busters team at Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

## BuzzBOP's mēra

Thanks for the mail Pollution Busters! Keep sending us your photos, stories, and art! *Remember to include your name, age and address on the back of your artwork!*



The Kirk boys from Pukehina had a great time learning about pests and doing the activities in the last newsletter!



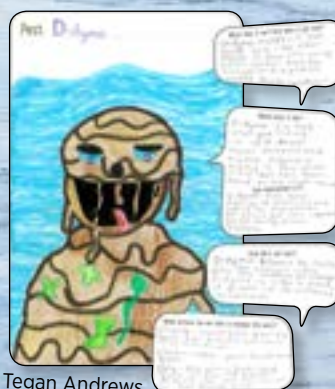
Pest Free 2050 poster – Bodhi, Ōhope



Bonnie Paton, Murupara



Natalie Steiner, Murupara



Tegan Andrews

**Send your drawings, photos, letters and competition entries to:**

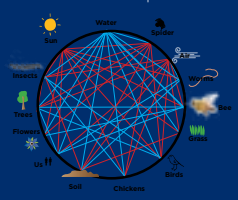
POST: Bay of Plenty Regional Council  
Pollution Busters Club  
Freepost 122076  
PO Box 364  
Whakatāne 3158

EMAIL: [buzzbop@boprc.govt.nz](mailto:buzzbop@boprc.govt.nz)



Everything is  
**Connected**

Te katoa o nga mea tukupu  
e mau hono takapiri ana



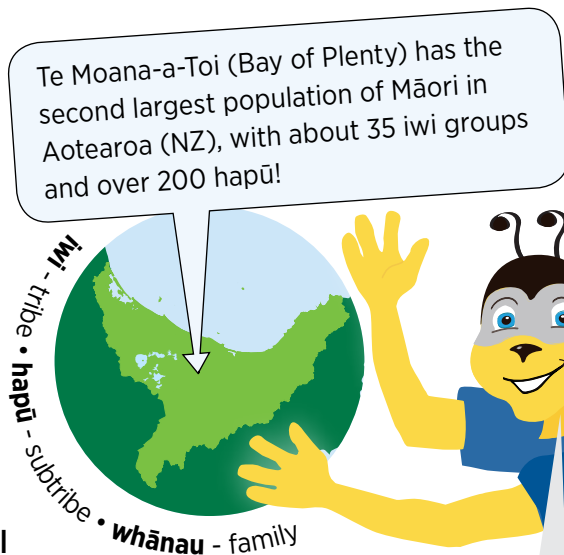
# Te Ao Māori

Te Ao Māori literally means 'The Māori World' and includes:

- **Te Reo Māori** (Māori language)
- **Tikanga Māori** (protocols and customs – *correct ways things should be done*)
- **Te Tiriti o Waitangi** (the Treaty of Waitangi – *New Zealand's founding document*)

It also includes the **social** and **cultural life**, the **natural environment**, **ancient world**, **spirituality** and the **universe**!

Te Ao Māori is part of our kiwi culture and makes us unique and special; it is understanding that our environment has mauri (life force), and everything is connected. Ko au ko koe, ko koe ko au (I am you and you are me – meaning everything is connected).



## Did you know?

New Zealand has three official languages – Te Reo Māori, English and New Zealand Sign Language

## WORD FIND

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

HAPŪ  
IWI  
KŌRERO  
PAPATŪĀNUKU  
RANGINUI  
TE AO MĀORI

TE REO MĀORI  
TIKANGA MĀORI  
WAIATA  
WHAKAPAPA  
WHAKATAUKĪ  
WHĀNAU

## Naku te rourou Nau te rourou, Ka ora ai te iwi

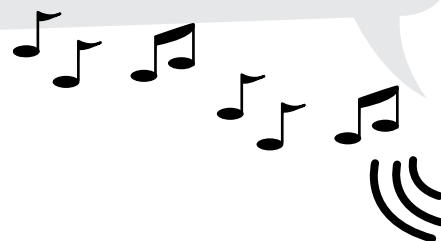
“With your basket and my basket, the people will thrive”

*This whakataukī tells us that when we work together, we can achieve great things.*

## Māori oral history

Māori oral history is the record of the past handed down by voice over generations through **whakapapa** (family history), **kōrero** (discussions), **whakataukī** (proverb or saying) and **waiata** (song).

*Check out the creation story on page 4 that was passed on this way.*





# The creation story

## Ranginui and Papatūānuku in the beginning...

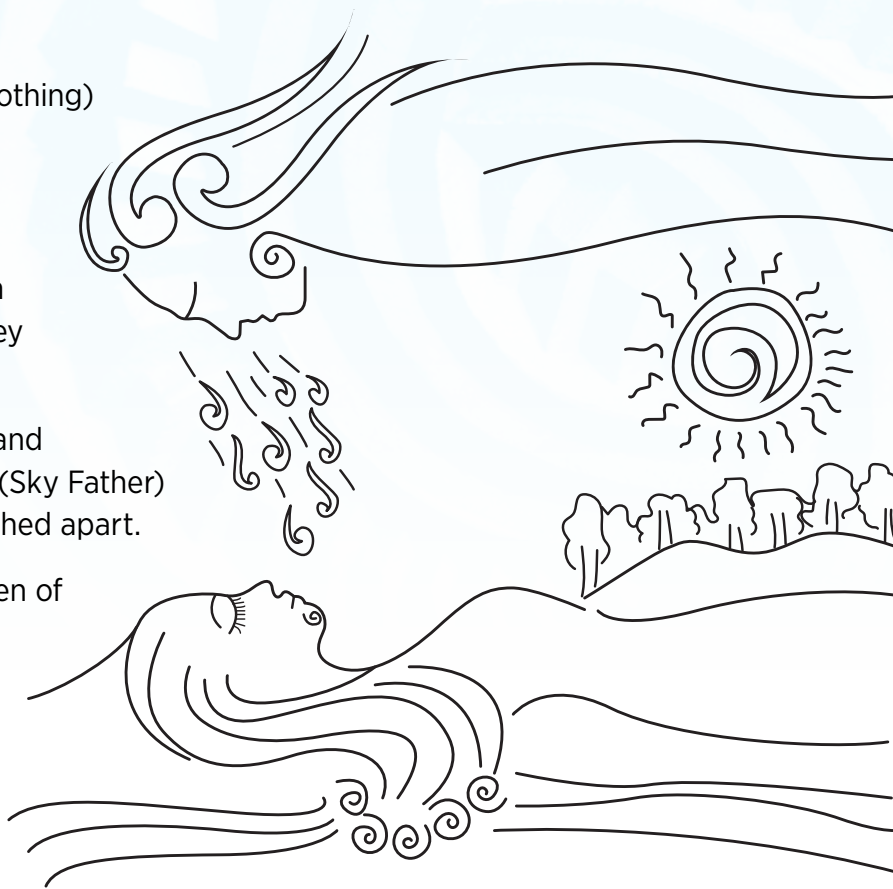
In the beginning there was Te Kore (The Nothing) and then came Te Pō (The Night).

In that darkness lay Ranginui and Papatūānuku. There was no light between them. Their children lay squashed between them, crawling around in the darkness. They wanted light to see, and room to move.

One of the children, Tānemahuta, pushed and pushed and PUSHED until finally Ranginui (Sky Father) and Papatūānuku (Earth Mother) were pushed apart.

Then there was light and space. The children of Ranginui and Papatūānuku could move around easily. They could see now it was light.

Not all of the children were happy with Tānemahuta (father of the forest and all things that live there) separating their parents. Tāwhirimātea (father of the wind) was not happy, he raged and blew great storms. Eventually he got tired and calmed down a bit, but that is why we still sometimes get great storms and wild winds.



This is one way of telling this story – there are quite a few different ways of telling it. This is a very short version.

Try going to the library and getting some of the beautiful books out on Māori Myths and Legends.



### Go outside and look around you...


- Can you:
- ▶ see the children of Tānemahuta?
  - ▶ feel Tāwhirimātea gently blowing on you?
  - ▶ can you feel Tamanuiterā warming you?

Find out who the other tamariki/children of Ranginui (Sky Father) and Papatūānuku (Earth Mother) are. What do they give us? (for example Ranginui gives us mist and tears of rain.)

# Atua Māori Gods

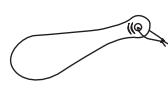
From Ranginui and Papatūānuku many atua (Māori Gods) were created.

Tāwhirimātea blew and mixed up the cards – can you match the Atua with their role?  
The pictures are clues to help you.




**Tāwhirimātea**

God of Kūmara and all cultivated foods



**Tūmatauenga**


God of Peace



**Rongomātāne**

Kaitiaki of wind and storms


God of the sun



**Tangaroa**


God of Earthquakes and volcanoes

God of war




**Tamanuiterā**


Kaitiaki of the sea, rivers, lakes and all that live within



**Rūaumoko**



**Rongo**



**Tānemahuta**

Kaitiaki of the forest/s and all that dwell within

**Answers:** Tānemahuta – Kaitiaki of forest and all that dwell within, Tangaroa – Kaitiaki of the sea, rivers, lakes and all that live within, Tāwhirimātea – God of wind and storms, Tūmatauenga – God of war, Tamanuiterā – God of the sun, Rongo – God of Peace, Rūaumoko – God of Earthquakes and volcanoes, Rongomātāne – God of Kūmara and all cultivated foods

## Atua art

**You will need:** Art supplies – paper, pens, felts, pencils.

**What to do:** Pick an atua – think about what they are the god of, and use it in your design, colour it in, and you could write a short story explaining it.

*Maybe start by brainstorming, it is a good way to get your ideas together.*

BuzzBOP's friend made this one →

*"This is Tangaroa, God of the sea. It shows he is the god of the sea because he is blue like the sea, has fish tails, a shark, a fish hook and water."*



*Who do you think this could be? Why?*

# Māori values

Te Ao Māori is based on these values:



**Whakapapa** – a way of explaining who our people are, family history and how we are connected.

**Tikanga** – a system of values and traditions that have been passed down over time, the correct ways to do things, also known as the Māori way.

**Mauri** – it is the life force, the flow of energy.

**Tapu** – sacred, special or prohibited.

**Manaakitanga** – hospitality and kindness, showing respect, generosity, care and aroha for others.

**Kotahitanga** – working as one, unity, togetherness, solidarity, collective action.

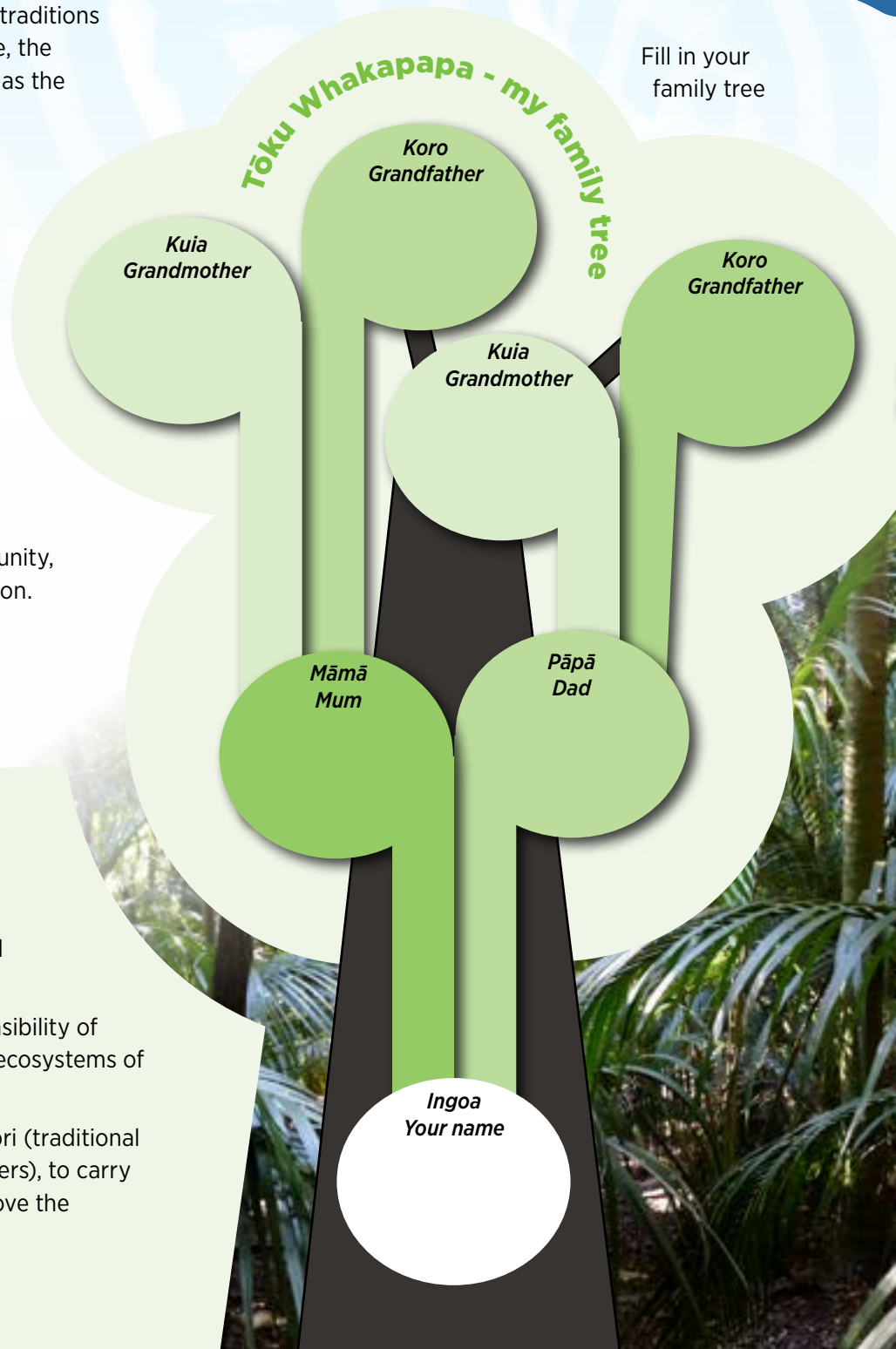
**Kaitiakitanga** – a way of managing the environment, based on the traditional Māori world view and that all living things are important and connected.

As kaitiaki (guardians), it is the responsibility of people to look after and improve the ecosystems of the atua.

It is important to use Mātauranga Māori (traditional knowledge passed down from the elders), to carry out Kaitiakitanga to protect and improve the environment for future generations.

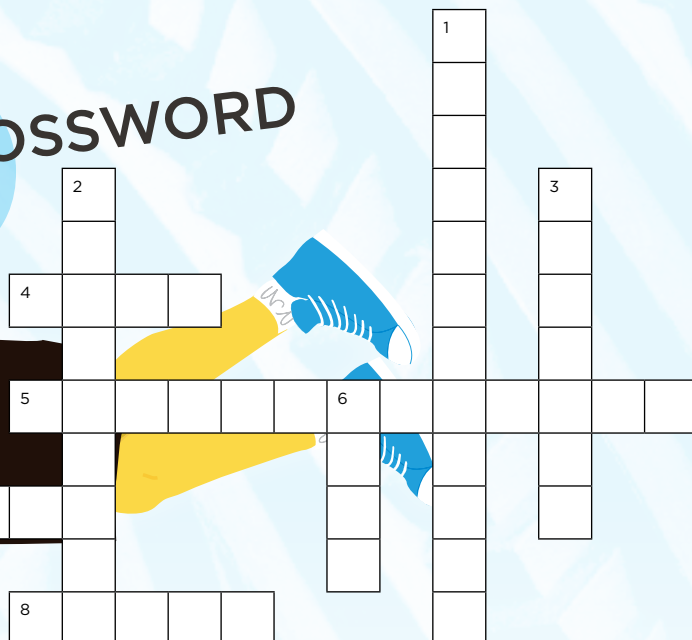
**We are all kaitiaki!**

Fill in your family tree





# CROSSWORD



CLUE: All the answers are on the opposite page

## Across

4. sacred
5. a way of looking after the environment
7. grandmother
8. life force

## Down

1. respect for others
2. family history
3. correct way to do things
6. grandfather

**Māori use carving and arts to tell the stories of life.**

**Kowhaiwhai** – decorative patterns often inspired by nature.

**Tukutuku** – the woven panels on the walls in meeting houses between the carved panels.

**Poupou** – carved wall panels

**Whakairo** – carving



Above is a pātiki (flounder) kowhaiwhai pattern in Māori art

## BuzzBOP's Friend – Nikora Heitia

Māori Policy Office Assistant (Mātauranga Māori Framework)

**What do you do?** I work with Iwi/Hapū organisations and individuals investigating Māori rights, values and interests. My projects look at how we can bring mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) in to our Council processes and use the knowledge in our day to day work.

### What was your path to this role?

I did a Bachelor of Environmental Studies, and during summer breaks I worked at the Regional Council within the Māori Policy team. This sparked my interest in Te Ao Māori and Te Taiao (the environment). My passion for these topics has continued and I am now a full time member of the Māori Policy team.

**What is the best part of your job?** Working in an environment as well as a subject that I am hugely passionate about. Working on the mātauranga Māori (Māori Knowledge) project allows me to speak with a number of kuia/kaumātua (elders) and rangatira



(chiefs) who have vast amounts of historical knowledge that they generously pass on to me. Interacting with these people regularly is a major asset to my job as well as my own personal development.

### What is your message to Pollution Busters?

Te Ao Māori is for everyone, it's part of who we are as Kiwis and why Aotearoa is so special. Here's a whakataukī to keep you motivated:

**Whāia te iti kahurangi ki te tūohu koe  
me he maunga teitei  
– Seek the treasure you value most dearly:  
if you bow your head, let it be to a lofty mountain.**

This whakataukī is about aiming high or for what is truly valuable, but it's real message is to be persistent and don't let obstacles stop you from reaching your goal.

# Te Ao Māori: **Wai** – water

When Tāne separated Papatūānuku (Earth Mother) and Ranginui (Sky Father), Ranginui shed tears of grief. The tears of Ranginui eventually filled the deep caverns, the valleys, and the great basins which are now seas. Water is a taonga (treasure), and we are the kaitiaki (guardians).

*Ko te wai te ora o nga mea katoa*  
*Water is the lifegiver of all things*

## Ngā momo wai – types of water

Māori recognised that the mauri (life force or flow of energy) in a water-body is influenced by its characteristics, and gave names to types of water.

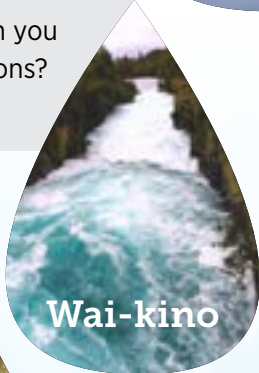
Here are some of them – can you match them to the descriptions?



**1.** Usually fresh water that flows freely. Refers to ordinary water; water in its natural state.



**2.** Pure water with mauri that is life-giving, a source of well-being. This water may be used for healing the sick and creating positive energy.



**3.** Collective term for geothermal hot water. Water of the gods.



**4.** Salt water – water of the sea or tide.



**5.** Water that has become “dead” – has no mauri (life force), usually because of pollution; water that has been damaged in some way so that it can no longer sustain life (it could contaminate other living or spiritual things).



**6.** Water that has been polluted and can cause harm or water that hides danger. For example rivers that often flood and produce white water.

**Answers:** Wai-ora=1, Wai-māori=2, Wai-kino=3, Wai-mate=4, Wai-tai=5, Wai-ariki=6

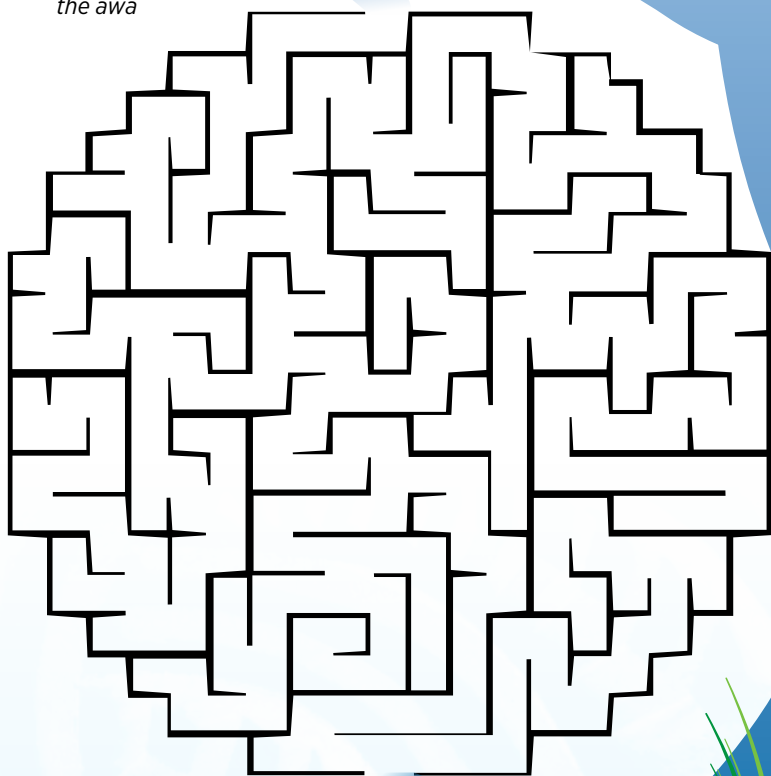


roto - lake

*In Māori tradition Taniwha are water spirits or supernatural creatures. They were said to hide in roto, awa, moana or ana (caves).*

Find the path for the stream to join the awa

Start



awa - river



*Tiaki i tō  
tātou wai  
– protect our  
water*

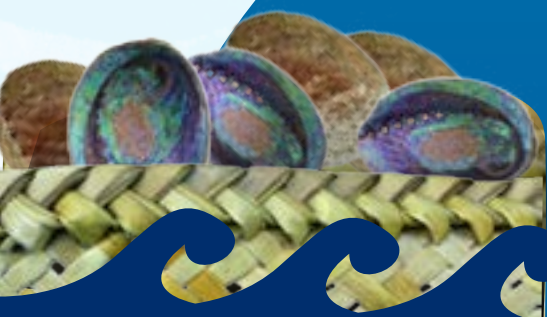
Te Mana  
o te Wai  
(Freshwater)  
is a precious  
resource that we  
can all help to  
manage and  
protect.

Here are some  
simple things  
you can do:

## Taonga species

Māori have many taonga (treasured) species spread through forestlands, coastal/sea and freshwater. Such as:

- **Freshwater:** Tuna (eels), Whitebait, Kōura (freshwater crayfish)
- **Coastal:** Kina, Pāua, Kūtai/Mussel, Kōura, Pipi.



**Kaimoana** (food from the sea) has always been an important part of the traditional Māori diet. Māori think of the coastal environment as 'baskets of food'. Traditionally people follow tikanga (practises) when gathering seafood. Like saying a karakia before collection and making sure only one kind, for example pāua, was taken at one time.



- Drains are only for rain! – Wash cars on grass; don't pour pollutants or wash paint brushes into storm water drains.
- Plant native trees and plants to help attract birds and stop pollution run-off.
- Take rubbish, including green waste, to the landfill, not the estuary or river banks. Recycle or compost if you can.
- Get involved with your neighbours or join a care group to protect local waterways.

moana – ocean

# Te Ao Māori: **Forestlands**

Trees in the forest are seen as Tānemahuta, rising to separate earth and sky. Tāne, the tree, holds the sky aloft, bringing light into the world. In the traditional Māori world view, plants and animals were rich in meaning. The diverse heights, girths and other features of trees suggested the variety of human dimensions. Children were named after trees, plants and manu (birds), and people's characters were likened to features of the forest.

Can you unscramble the common native trees/plants that have lots of uses within Te Ao Māori and match them to their description and picture?

\_\_\_\_\_ waawKaka

Common native plant. It is used as a rongoā (traditional medicine) known to treat internal problems for your stomach and kidney and external wounds such as cuts, bruises and boils.

\_\_\_\_\_ ānkMua

This tree is common throughout Aotearoa and can be found in lots of different habitats. One of the uses for was rongoā to treat burns and scalds. The bees collect pollen from this tree, and make delicious honey.

\_\_\_\_\_ raeHakke

This plant is used for rongoā and making loits of different things like: whāriki (floor mats), kete (baskets), rourou (food baskets), kakahu (cloaks), fishing lines and nets.

\_\_\_\_\_ iT ōuKka

This trees root, stem and top was used as a source of food, it is a good source of starch, sugar and fibre. They were also planted to mark trails, boundaries and urupā (cemetery).

\_\_\_\_\_ aurKi

This tree once covered 1.2 million hectares of the far north island. It can grow to over 50 meters tall. It was a common resource for Māori to build waka (boats) and also used for whakairo (carving). The gum was used as a fire starter. Now there is a fungus-type disease which is killing them.

\_\_\_\_\_ Tratōa

A highly prized resource for building whare (house/s), waka and whakairo. This tree can be found in low lying forestlands particularly on river flats. Grows up to 30 metres tall!

## Rongoā is traditional Māori medicine.

It includes herbal medicine made from plants, physical techniques like massage, and spiritual healing.





NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Competition closes 17 November 2017

POST ENTRIES TO: Bay of Plenty Regional Council,  
Pollution Busters Club, Freeport 122076, PO Box 364,  
Whakatāne 3158 or EMAIL: [buzzbop@boprc.govt.nz](mailto:buzzbop@boprc.govt.nz)

# NEVER HAPPENS? HAPPENS

BuzzBOP knows that 'never happens, happens' so here are some tips so you can be prepared!



## IMPACT: NO WAI (WATER)

Imagine having no water for three days or more.  
How would you wash, cook, clean? What would you drink?

### WHAT ACTIONS SHOULD YOU TAKE?

Talk to your family... water cuts could affect your daily life, so make sure you have enough bottled water at home to see you through three days or more.



#### BOTTLING WATER

Keep your empty water, juice and fizzy drink bottles. Give them a good clean and fill them with water. You will need at least three litres of water for each person for each day that you are without water (three days or more). Don't forget to store water for babies and pets too.



#### LONG-TERM WATER STORAGE

You can keep stored drinking water for up to a year if you add non-scented household bleach (half a teaspoon for every ten litres of water and don't drink for at least half an hour after mixing).

Ask an adult to help (bleach can be quite dangerous!).

You can also fill plastic icecream containers with water and keep them in the freezer. These can help keep food cool if the power is off and can also be used for drinking.



#### STAY FED AND WASHED

Remember to store water for cooking and cleaning as well. You can use the water in your hot water cylinder, but store some extra in large plastic containers.

*Kia Tu Mataara - Stand ready be vigilant*

For more Emergency preparedness tips visit [www.whatstheplanstan.govt.nz](http://www.whatstheplanstan.govt.nz)

Information in this newsletter was sourced and adapted from: [www.boprc.govt.nz](http://www.boprc.govt.nz), [www.teara.govt.nz](http://www.teara.govt.nz), [www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz), [www.whatstheplanstan.govt.nz](http://www.whatstheplanstan.govt.nz)



### Join up or change of address:

*Please have an adult check that the details are correct before you send this.*

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you (or your friends or family) 3-15 years old and live in the Bay of Plenty?

Are you interested in learning about the environment and sustainability?

**Join Pollution Busters!**

