

RANDOM HOUSE TEACHERS' RESOURCE KIT

Manukura: The White Kiwi

Joy Cowley

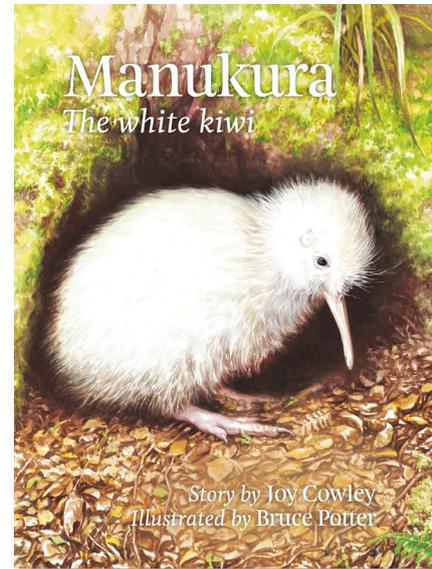
When a beautiful rare white kiwi was born in captivity at Pukaha Mount Bruce, Māori recognised this as something very special — a treasure and a sign of new beginnings.

In this beautiful picture book world-renowned writer Joy Cowley tells the true story of Manukura, the little white kiwi, and offers an uplifting message to all young New Zealanders.

With strikingly naturalistic illustrations by Bruce Potter, this is a treasure of a book that will be loved by generations to come.



Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's most prolific and successful writers of children's books, having written more than 600 titles for all ages. She was made a Distinguished Companion of The New Zealand Order of Merit for services to children's literature in 2005.



SPECIFICATIONS:

Imprint: Random House NZ
Classification: RHNZ Children's
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ISBN: 9781869798383
RRP: \$19.99
Format: Paperback
Extent: 32pp
Readership: 5+

RESOURCE KIT CONTAINS:

- Shared Reading Questions
- Māoritanga
- Being Special
- Mythology
- Science
- Conservation
- Illustrations
- Writing

Price (GST inclusive) and author details are correct at the time of writing but are subject to change without notice. Visit www.randomhouse.co.nz for up-to-date information.

Shared Reading Questions

1. What colour are kiwi usually?
2. What do you know about the life of a kiwi?
3. What is a 'guardian'? Why did people think Manukura was such a special bird? (p. 4)
4. When was New Zealand 'full of kiwi'? (p. 6)
5. What is the other animal in the picture? Where did the kiwi's enemies come from? (p. 6)
6. How do you think the fires started? How did they harm the kiwi? (p. 6)
7. What does 'extinct' mean? (p. 6)
8. How does an incubator help kiwi to survive? (p. 8)
9. What does a predator do? (p. 8)
10. Have a look at the machine that's attached to the egg. What do you think this might be used for? (p. 8)
11. What is the baby kiwi holding in its beak? (p. 8)
12. What is the yolk of an egg needed for? How many months does it take for a kiwi to grow inside its egg? (p. 12)
13. What is the first thing a kiwi uses its beak for? (p. 14)
14. What does the word 'plumage' mean? (p. 17)
15. What does the word 'rare' mean? (p. 20)
16. Why is each human being special? What does 'unique' mean? (p. 27)
17. What do the words 'juvenile' and 'aggressive' mean? (p. 29)

Māoritanga

1. Find the meanings of the following Māori words:
 - Kia ora
 - Tamariki
 - Manukura
 - Iwi
 - Tohu
 - Taonga
2. Colour a map of New Zealand, showing the areas where some of the main iwi are.
3. Many of the illustrations have swirling patterns in the background. Find out which of these are common Māori patterns and symbols. Why has the illustrator, Bruce Potter, used these in the background of many of the pictures? What does the koru shape mean? Create a design using Māori patterns.

Being Special

1. Manukura is the only known white kiwi in the world. In the book, she knows she is different to other kiwi. How does this make her feel?
2. How do you think people sometimes feel when they are different to most other people? For example, this could be a person from overseas who comes to live in New Zealand; or a person with a physical disability.
3. What is special or unique about you? For example, do you have a birthmark, an unusual hobby, interesting ancestors, or a special skill? Draw an outline of your body and, inside it, write all the things that are special about you.
4. The kiwi has become a symbol that represents the New Zealand people. What is unique about the kiwi? What is unique about New Zealanders? What are some other New Zealand symbols (things or people)?
5. Design a New Zealand flag with a white kiwi on it.

Mythology

1. The story of the Cosmic Egg is found in many cultures including Chinese, Egyptian and Scandinavian. In these myths, the universe begins with a huge egg from which the world or some powerful being hatches out. Find out about the Chinese story of Phan Ku and the great egg. Act out the story or make a picture book version of it.
2. Birds also appear in many myths around the world. They are often messengers, or signs of life and death. What was Manukura's message? Read a bird myth from another culture.
3. Read *How the Kiwi Lost Its Wings* by Alwyn Owen. Write your own myth titled *The White Kiwi*, explaining how the kiwi got white feathers. Think of a reason why the kiwi's plumage suddenly turns white.

Science

Eggs

1. Find out how a bird's egg develops. For example, you might choose a chicken's egg.
2. Draw a cross-section diagram of an egg. Draw cross-section diagrams to show the stages in the growth of an embryo. Look at the insides of real eggs.
7. Read these books about native birds and write a review of your favourite book. Evaluate the design, illustrations and writing, and give the book an overall rating:
 - *Kiwi Moon* by Gavin Bishop
 - *Tahi: One Lucky Kiwi* by Melanie Drewery
 - *Elwyn's Dream* by Ali Foster
 - *Moa: The Story of a Fabulous Bird* by Philip Temple
 - *Old Blue: The Rarest Bird in the World* by Mary Taylor

Life cycle

3. Draw a timeline showing the stages in the life of a New Zealand bird.

Kiwi

4. Divide a page into four sections and draw a kiwi in the centre. Illustrate the following facts:
 - Food: What do kiwis eat?
 - Habitat: Where do they like to live?
 - Defences: How do they protect themselves?
 - Enemies: What or who is a threat to kiwis?
5. Manukura is not well-camouflaged. Find out which animals use bright colours to protect themselves, instead of trying to hide from their predators.
6. Create a chart of different birds' beaks, legs and claws. Arrange your chart in two sections: predatory birds and foraging birds.

Conservation

1. Over 90% of New Zealand's native forest has disappeared over the past 500 years. Both Māori and European settlers cleared the forests for hunting and farming. Why did they do this? What did this mean for the native animals?
2. Humans also introduced predators that wiped out many New Zealand birds. Māori bought rats and dogs; European settlers bought stoats, ferrets, possums and hedgehogs. Why were native birds easy targets for these predators?
3. Design a 'Wanted' poster for one of the deadly bird predators: stoat, rat, ferret, feral cat, or dog. Include a picture of the animal, what it kills, where it is found, and how to control it. (Reference: *Predators in New Zealand* by Marc Mason.)
4. Find Pukaha Mount Bruce and Little Barrier Island on a map of New Zealand. Find out the location of the other predator-free bird sanctuaries and islands.
5. Visit the website www.pukaha.org.nz and read about the other birds and animals at Mount Bruce. Read about Manukura's webcam. Find out why Manukura isn't called an albino.
6. Paint a sign for a conservation area to encourage people to protect the animals and birds.

Illustrations

Bruce Potter is an award-winning illustrator of over 95 books. He is well-known in New Zealand and overseas for his realistic paintings. Find some of his picture books and compare the style used in each.

1. White kiwi

Look at how Potter has painted the white kiwi. How has he made the white bird stand out from the background? Paint your own portrait of Manukura.

2. Plants

Examine Potter's forest scenes. How many shades of green can you find? Practise making different shades of green and brown with watercolour paints, dyes or pastels. Illustrate a forest scene like those shown in the book.

3. Faces

How has Potter made human faces look real? Look at your own face in a mirror and use a dark sketching pencil to draw yourself.

Writing

1. Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's most famous writers. Visit her website www.joycowley.com to find out about her life, and read her 'Advice for Budding Authors'.
2. Write a poem celebrating Manukura, the white kiwi. A poem does not have to rhyme but it should have carefully chosen words which create a word picture of the kiwi.
3. Write a story for junior children about the imaginary adventures of the white kiwi.
4. Create a comic book with a superhero character called White Kiwi. What special powers could it have?
5. Visit Manukura's Facebook page and write a message for her.