

Discovery Time

BIRDS, BIRDS, BIRDS!



TRUE OR FALSE

1 Birds are vertebrates (animals with a back bone).
True False

2 Not all birds have feathers.
True False

3 All birds can fly.
True False

4 Birds have teeth.
True False

5 Birds bones are lightweight.
True False

6 There are over 10,000 species of birds worldwide.
True False

7 Not all birds have wings.
True False

8 Birds are cold-blooded.
True False

9 Birds are bipedal (have two legs for perching, walking, hopping or running).
True False

10 Birds lay eggs.
True False

11 All birds have a wishbone (furcula). **True False**

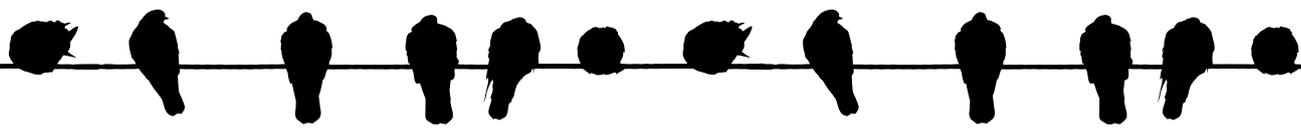
Answers
1, T 2, F 3, F 4, F 5, T 6, T 7, F 8, F 9, T 10, T 11, T



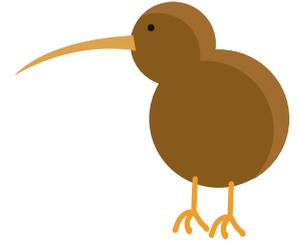
MORE THAN FEATHERS

The role of birds is significant to Māori life. Birds were not only a resource but provided guidance to hapū.

- The huia holds special significance here in the Manawatū, representing the importance of balance. The huia came over on the Kurahaupo waka, on the shoulder of Tautu a Tohunga, one of the captains alongside Whātonga. Whātonga was a great chief who travelled far across Aotearoa, eventually settling here in the Manawatū. The Rangitāne iwi are named after his mokopuna Rangitāne. The huia also settled nearby and was last seen in the Tararua Ranges.
- We are all familiar with the beautiful call of the tūī. It is told that tūī were at times tamed and taught mihi (greeting), singing their waiata as visitors arrived. Even now, tūī will cut other manu off who show up unannounced in a fuss.
- When a kārearea (falcon) screamed during the day, it was believed the weather would change the next day. If it screamed while the sun was out, the next day would rain and vice versa.
- The pīpīwharau (shining cuckoo) signalled time to start planting crops as the birds would arrive in Aotearoa right at the start of spring.



Curiosity at Home



A GENEROUS MANU

Many moons ago, the leaves of Tāne Mahuta were creating quite a mess on the forest floor. He wanted to clean this up so went to find some help.

He began with the tūi, but she was nesting and not too keen on the dark. Tāne Mahuta wasn't pleased with her response and threw two white pebbles at her, which have become the markings she carries on her neck.

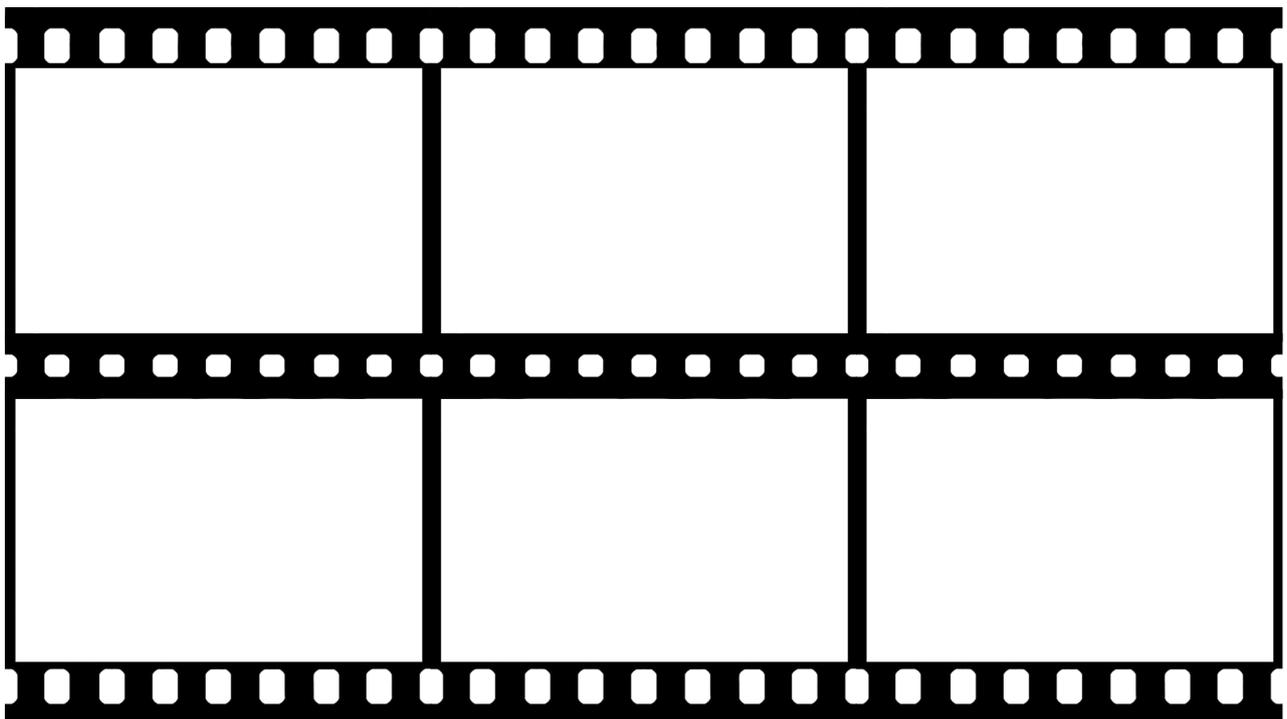
Tāne Mahuta came across the beautiful tieke (saddleback) and asked "will you help me?". Not a fan of the cold ground, tieke refused. Tāne Mahuta became cross with the tieke and burnt its back, leaving behind two firey red patches.

This left the little kiwi, and Tāne Mahuta was sure the kiwi would help. He was right, and the little kiwi replied "of course". Tāne Mahuta wanted to thank the kind kiwi for its efforts; the kiwi requested a longer beak to hunt for bugs on the forest floor.

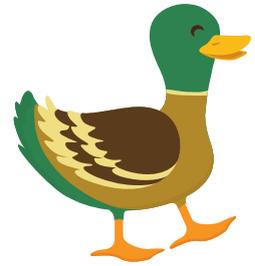
Tāne Mahuta agreed, giving the kiwi a long, pointy beak, perfect for sniffing out insect kai to munch on. From that moment Tāne Mahuta and the generous kiwi became best friends.

COMIC STRIP CREATION

Stories are an important part of sharing history! Use the comic strip below to share the story 'A Generous Manu'.



Curiosity at Home



BIRD SURVEY

What birds can you find? Grab a notepad and pen, and grab a comfy spot in your backyard to watch the birds fly by. Every time you spot a bird, note it down. You might like to draw the bird or make notes about its markings. What birds can you find at home?



BIRD CREATIVITY

Trace the shapes below onto a piece of paper and colour each shape. Use as many of the shapes as many times as you would like. Cut each shape out and use them to create your own bird friend. Will you use a triangle for a beak or perhaps a diamond?

You can also grab an art activity pack for \$5.00 from the Te Manawa shop with scissors, shapes and glue to make your own creations at home.

