

## Curious Collections

This old paper bag was found in a bay in Queen Charlotte Sound, in Te Waipounamu South Island. A long time ago, it was used to carry whale meat.

In 1964, New Zealand whalers harpooned their last whale. Whaling stopped not because people wanted to protect whales, but because there were hardly any left. It wasn't until 1978 that all marine mammals were protected by law in New Zealand waters.

This bag reminds us how we used to treat our whale friends. What other moana friends do you think we should protect instead of eat?

Whale Meat Bag  
Whekenui By-Products Ltd  
NZMM 2024.23.4



## School Holiday Programme: Ōku Hoa Moana: My Ocean Friends

7-17 April Incl weekends  
10am-2:30pm | \$5 per child  
Bookings recommended

Explore *Ngā Huhua: Abundance* — a deep blue world bursting with ocean life! Tamariki can grab a copy of *Ōku Hoa Moana: My Ocean Friends* and explore the galleries, discovering amazing moana creatures who live beneath the waves.

Then it's time to get hands-on — craft your own miniature honu turtle keepsake and meet a dazzling performer from the moana, who's ready to share a few turtle secrets!



## THE . . . Ō mini MĀUI CLUB

April 2026

### #22: Turtle Power

Sea turtle season has arrived — just in time for the school holidays!



94kg turtle! Photo courtesy of Auckland Zoo

## Turtle-tastic Rescue!

Turtles have been popping up on beaches in Northland — and they're big! Most are green sea turtles, and the largest so far weighs a whopping 94kg. That's about as heavy as a large refrigerator!

Big ocean swells and strong currents may have carried them here. Green sea turtles usually live in warmer waters, so seeing them here reminds us that ocean temperatures are changing. Climate change can shift currents and confuse wildlife, sending turtles far from home.

Sometimes found by members of the public, after being rescued by DOC, these turtles come to Auckland Zoo's veterinary hospital, and expert vets spring into action. They gently warm them up and give them fluids. They do check-ups, blood tests, and X-rays just like doctors do with humans. Some turtles even need medicine for pneumonia. With care, they grow stronger and practice swimming again.

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When they're healthy, they move to SEA LIFE Kelly Tarlton's for rehabilitation before being released back into the ocean with a special flipper tag.

If you ever see a sick or tangled turtle, call 0800 DOC HOT (0800 362 468). By caring for turtles, we care for our oceans too!



I'm covered in spots like the night sky above,  
Though giant in size, I'm gentle with love.  
I filter tiny plankton with a wide open mouth,  
Who is this sea traveller from north to south?

## Kupu huna

Dive into the deep blue world of Te Moana-nui-a-Toi, the outer Hauraki Gulf Marine Park! This amazing moana is bursting with creatures — from tiny swimmers to ocean giants.

Can you spot them hiding in the puzzle? Search high and low, forwards and backwards, and see how many moana friends you can find!

- 1 Bryde's whale
- 2 Bottlenose dolphin
- 3 Orca
- 4 Long-finned pilot whale
- 5 Humpback whale
- 6 Tāmure Snapper
- 7 John Dory
- 8 Tarakihi
- 9 Kingfish
- 10 Buller's shearwater
- 11 Fairy tern
- 12 Black petrel
- 13 Little blue penguin
- 14 Great white shark
- 15 Manta ray
- 16 Kina Sea urchin
- 17 Kōura Crayfish
- 18 Green-lipped mussels
- 19 Tuatara
- 20 Kekenō New Zealand fur seal

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

Riddle answers: This page: Manta ray; Opposite page, top: Albattross; Opposite page, bottom: Green Sea Turtle

## Bubble Thoughts!

Have a go at the colouring in and think of a funny caption for these two friends! What do you think they are both thinking?

Be in to win your own green sea turtle plushie!  
Entries close end of May 2026



Enter  
by emailing us at  
info@maritimemuseum.co.nz  
or tag us on Insta  
or Facebook:  
@nzmaritimemuseum

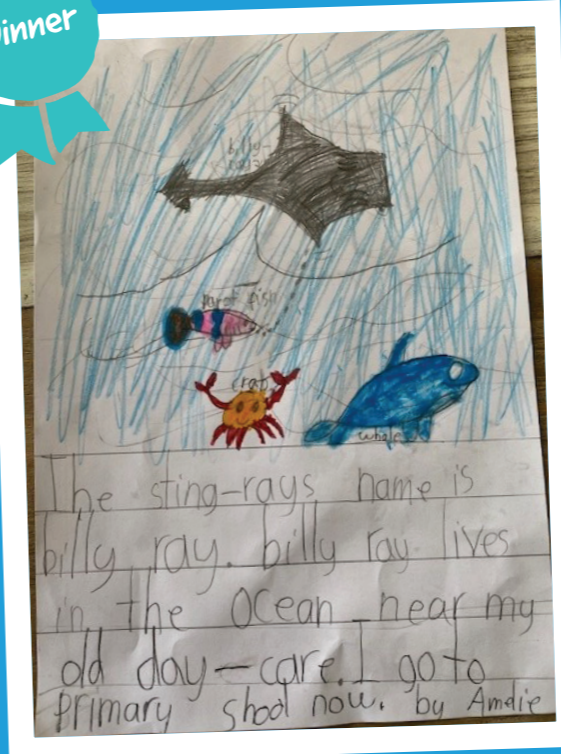
I soar above waves with wings strong and long,  
I circle the ocean and sing no song.  
I rest on the water but mostly I fly,  
Guess who I am, way up in the sky?

## He hoa o te moana

We had so many great entries to our He hoa o te moana Friends of the sea competition — tino pai rawa atu!

Shout outs to **Byeol, 6**, for her colourful ocean scene and **Boonyita, 12**, for her artistic drawing of a rockpool crab.

winner



Amelie, 8 for her story about Billy Ray the sting ray.



I travel the oceans, both far and wide,  
With a leathery shell and strong flippers for glide.  
I dive down for jellyfish, deep I will go,  
Which ancient sea creature am I, do you know?