

A tremendous effort to save a tiny honu (sea turtle!)



Scan the QR code to watch the video!

Reminder: turn on captions | *Time:* 6 minutes

1. What kind of honu (sea turtle) is at the vet hospital in this video?
2. Where did the honu come from?
3. What was on the honu shell when it was brought into the vet hospital? What is it a sign of?
4. Where will the honu go for rehab before it is released back into the wild?
5. What were two ways to tell that the honu was feeling better?
6. How will the vets know that the honu hasn't eaten plastic? Why doesn't the x-ray show if it has eaten plastic?
7. How long have Auckland Zoo, DOC and Kelly Tarlton's been working together to rescue honu?
8. Why will the honu be released up North?
9. Is it normal for honu to be on Aotearoa (New Zealand) beaches?
10. What should you do if you find a honu on the beach in Aotearoa?

Interesting vocabulary to learn more about:

Honu, buoyancy, ability, barnacles, anticoagulant, tubes, dehydration, overcome, fluid, rehab, glucose, aquarist, filter, collaboratively, institution, abnormal, essentially, tropical, anga, moana.

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Ka pai! (Well done!)

Now it's time to check your answers.

1. A juvenile loggerhead honu or sea turtle.
2. From Kaitaia (which is in the Far North).
3. Barnacles had attached onto its anga (shell). This is a sign that the honu is not very well as it is not swimming as much as it usually would.
4. Kelly Tarlton's (which is an aquarium in Auckland/Tāmaki Makaurau).
5. He started to eat little bits of kai (food) by himself and started to not get tired during his swims.
6. They need to wait and see if it will do a normal poo because plastic doesn't show on an x-ray.
7. For eight years.
8. There is a tropical current moving past so the water is nice and warm which will help make the honu feel right at home.
9. No, it is abnormal. Honu may live in the moana (ocean) off the coast of Aotearoa but not on the beach.
10. Make sure that the honu is not in immediate danger and then phone DoC (Department of Conservation) who can get the honu to the Vet Hospital to be looked after.

Challenge:

Create a poster or power-point to encourage people to clean up their local beach or to make sure their rubbish always ends up in a bin, not a waterway.