

Auckland Zoo Education Pack

Secondary



Theme:
Awesome Aotearoa hidden taonga

Zoo Lesson plan

Theme:

Secondary (ages 12-17) **AWESOME AOTEAROA**

What will I learn:

Aotearoa has many animals that are hard to find. We like to call these animals **"hidden taonga"** because they are unique and important to our place.

Inspire

Some of Aotearoa's animal Taonga are sometimes hard to find, but still important to take care of.

- Watch how the [rare Cobble Skinks](#) are cared for.
- Check out this eely eely cool page for information about [New Zealand longfin eels](#).
- Take a peek at the heaviest insect in Aotearoa, the [wētāpunga](#).
- What a cool frog, click here to learn about the [amazingly camouflaged Archey's Frog](#).

Reflect

What does the word taonga mean to you?

- A taonga is anything precious or valuable. What things are precious to you and how do you show them care?
- Why should we consider these animals taonga and why should we care about them?

Act

Follow the links to learn how to make [chew cards](#), [tracking tunnels](#) and [wētā hotels](#) to see how we can help our hidden taonga in our own backyards and forests.

Create

- Watch this amazing [Archey's Frog video](#) on how to make, colour and pronounce in Te Reo.
- Print and colour in this picture using the **Native Forest** resource and keep an eye out for our hidden taonga (resource attached). Can you design your own?
- Create and design a conservation pamphlet for one of our endemic bat (pekapeka) species. Use this [link](#) for information. Don't forget to be a conservation optimist, just like us. Show us your work using the hashtag #createwithaucklandzoo.

Explore

Learn more about our hidden taonga!

Research and compare the different types of wētā with the resource **Wētā Venn Diagram** (resource attached). Use this [video](#) for help.

- Try out the **Who am I? Quiz!** Hint: After the quiz, research the information on [our website](#) and try the quiz again to see if you improve. Follow this link for the [Who Am I? Quiz](#).
- Play **Spy the Eye** (resource attached).
- Check out our short comic to learn more about whitebait conservation (resource attached).

Curriculum links:

Lessons include a range of aspects from the main strands of the NZ Curriculum English, the arts, health and physical education, learning languages, mathematics and statistics, science, social science and technology.

They also consider the Key Competencies Thinking, Using language, symbols and text, Managing self, Relating to others, Participating and communicating.



Create your own
NATIVE FOREST habitat

Spot the difference: Wētā venn diagram

Can you find out the differences and similarities between these three groups?

Write their differences in the outer circles and their similarities in the middle where the circles overlap.

Different groups of Wētā:

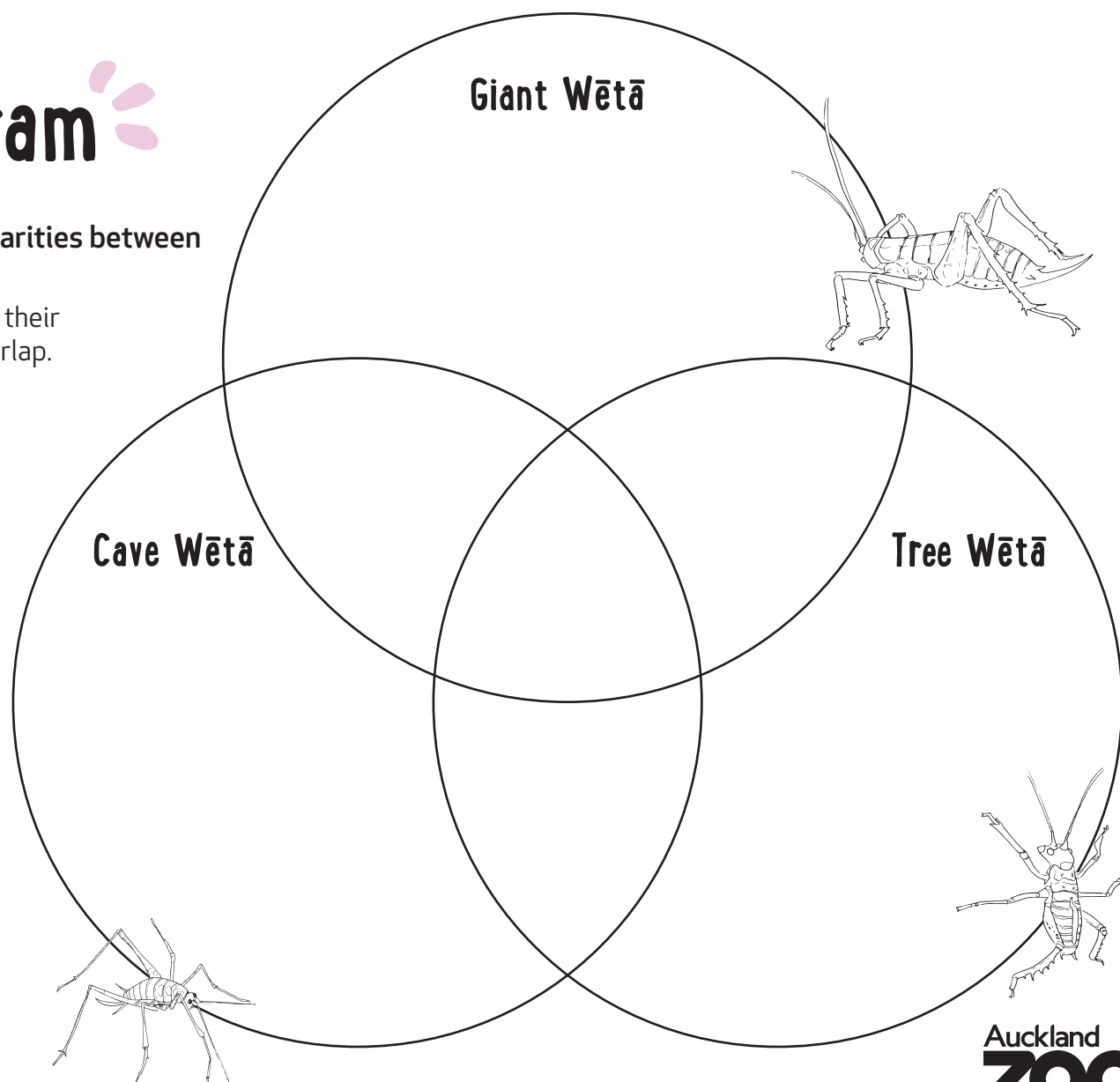
- Tree
- Ground
- Giant
- Cave
- Tusked

Extra for experts

See if you can add in the similarities and differences of the other groups of Wētā too. The ground and tusked Wētā.

Did you know?

Aotearoa New Zealand has five broad groups of wētā that call this place home.



Play spy the eye



Who's eye is whose?

Tuatara

Kiwi

Whio

Kea

Tīeke

Kororā

WHAT IS WHITEBAIT?

Have you ever eaten a whitebait fritter? You might have wondered where those tiny fish came from.

"Whitebait" is what we call the young of five different fish from the Galaxiidae family. They are native to Aotearoa/New Zealand.

They look very different when they are grown up. Giant kōkopu can grow to 40cm long!



BANDED KŌKOPU



INANGA

THE GALAXIIDS



GIANT KŌKOPU



KŌARO



SHORTJAW KŌKOPU



WHITEBAIT



Adult galaxiids lay their eggs amongst the plants near the mouth of a river.



When the eggs hatch, the river carries the larvae to the sea where they spend the winter feeding on small crustaceans.

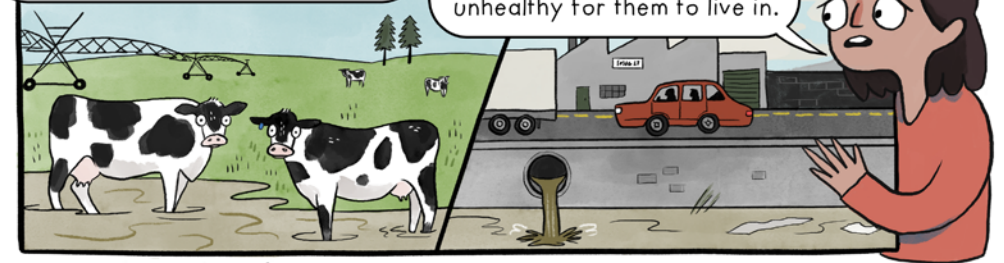


In the springtime, the young fish swim back up the river to finish growing in the fresh water.

It's during this journey upstream that they are caught in nets and known to us as "whitebait".

Sadly, there aren't as many galaxiids as there used to be and whitebait is getting harder to find.

Pollution from our cities and farms has made many rivers unhealthy for them to live in.



But it's not too late to change this, and we can all do something to help!

Build fences between farm animals and waterways

Keep drains clean

Grow native plants near rivers and streams

And tell your friends what you have learned



PLEASE DON'T EAT US!
LET US LIVE AND GROW.

THANK YOU!



GISELLE CLARKSON '17