

New Zealand Native Animals Handwriting Card

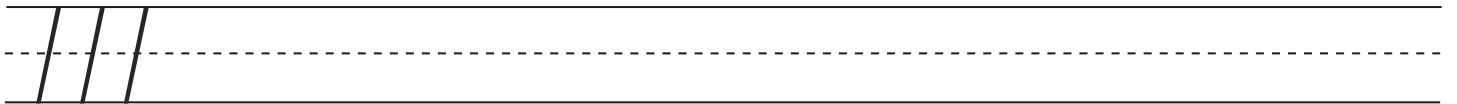
Year 3&4

Notes to remember:

- Some letters have ligatures (flicks) to make it easier to link them together. We add this to the point where our pencil finishes.
- We are now adding slope.
- We still need to keep our letters an even size.
- Our capitals touch the top of the line. They do not have ligatures.

Task: In your handwriting book, copy the warm-up and the paragraph below. Include the date and the title of the information card.

Warm-up: practice your slope. Start at the top of the line and travel downwards.



The Kiwi

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

k

i

w



Now copy this paragraph:

Kiwi are native to New Zealand. There are five different species. They are nocturnal birds that do not fly; they live on the forest floor. Kiwi use their long bills to search and forage for food like insects and fallen fruit. They live under hollow logs, under plants, in nests or dens in burrows.

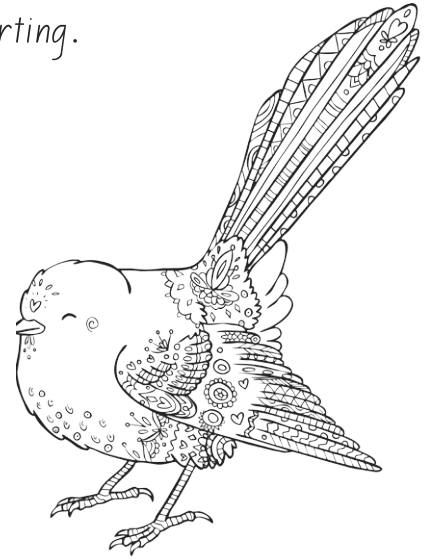
The Fantail

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

f

a

t



Now copy this paragraph:

Fantails are one of New Zealand's most common and well-known birds because of their fanned tails and loud chirps. They have a varied diet of bugs: moths, flies, spiders, wasps and beetles. When flying, Fantails use their tail to guide their direction, much like a rudder on a boat.

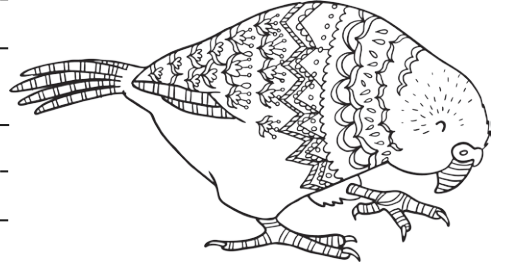
The Kākāpō

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

p

o

a



Now copy this paragraph:

The kākāpō (night owl) is a large, flightless bird that lives only in New Zealand.

While they can't fly, they are excellent climbers and spend their days sleeping in the trees. They spend their nights walking along the forest floor looking for food.

They eat fruit, seeds, plants and bulbs.

They are critically endangered.

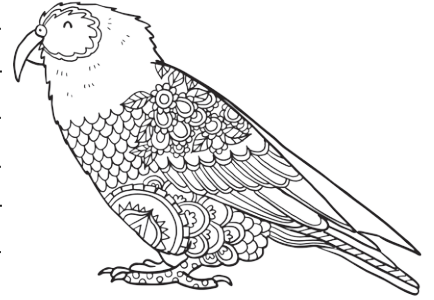
The Kea

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

r

l

b



Now copy this paragraph:

The kea is the world's only alpine parrot and is well-known in New Zealand for being cheeky and intelligent. They are social birds that enjoy human interaction, however their mischievous behaviour can cause frustration with visitors in their region. They are mainly vegetarian but do eat some insects. Keas are noisy birds that often hop sideways in order to move forward.

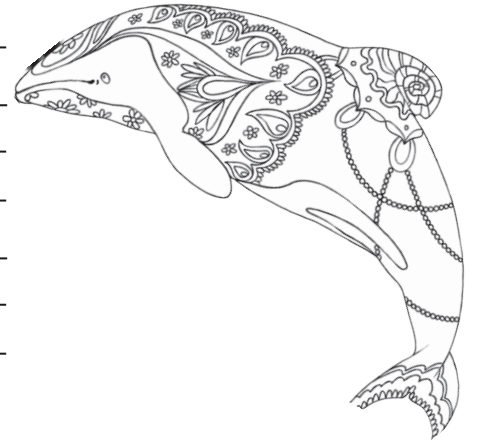
Māui's Dolphin

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

d

h

m



Now copy this paragraph:

The Māui's dolphin is the smallest and rarest dolphin in the world. They have a rounded back dorsal fin and a short snout. Māui's dolphins can usually be found in the shallow waters on the west coast of the North Island. They communicate with each other by making a high-pitched clicking sound.

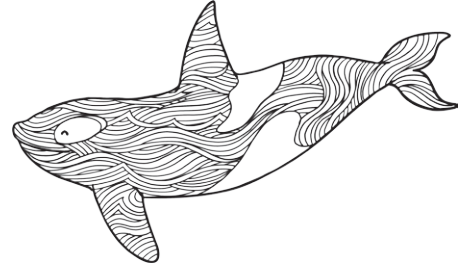
The Orca

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

c

o

a



Now copy this paragraph:

Orca whales, also called killer whales, are not actually whales. They are the largest member of the dolphin family. They can be found all over the world, especially in deeper, cooler water. Orcas are carnivores; they eat dolphins, sharks, seals, fish and squid. New Zealand orcas are a little bit different to others in the world because they eat stingrays as well.

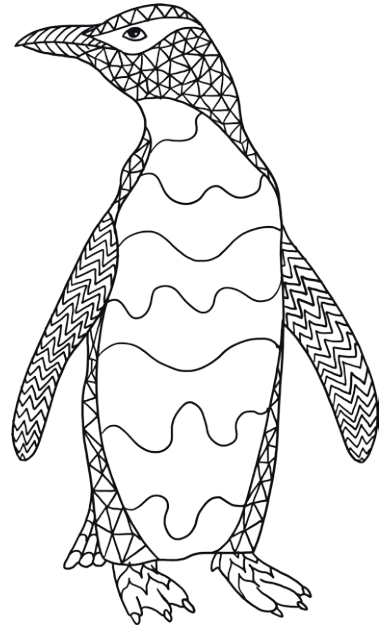
Hoiho

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

h

o

i



Now copy this paragraph:

Hoiho are one of the rarest penguins in the world and are unique to New Zealand. They are also commonly known as the yellow-eyed penguin because of the yellow band on their head surrounding their eyes. They are fussy eaters and will dive all the way to the seabed to find medium-sized fish.

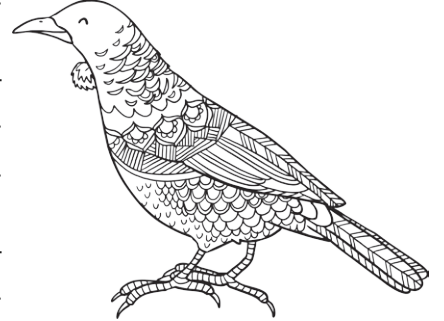
Tūi

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

t

ū

ī



Now copy this paragraph:

Tūi are easily spotted around New Zealand. They are identifiable because of the little white tuft under their chin, called a poi. They eat nectar from plants and are often seen on the branches of flowering trees like the kōwhai, pōhutukarua and flax.

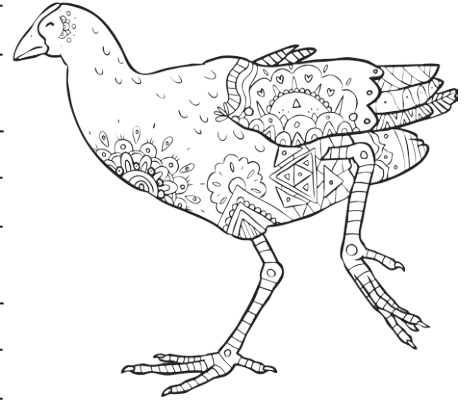
Pūkeko

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

p

k

e



Now copy this paragraph:

Pūkeko are beautiful birds with striking features. They have a dark blue and black plumage with red eyes, red bills, long orange legs and feet. Pūkeko are mostly vegetarian but they do eat insects, worms and spiders as well. They like living near wetlands, lagoons and swamps, but are also seen near farms and paddocks.

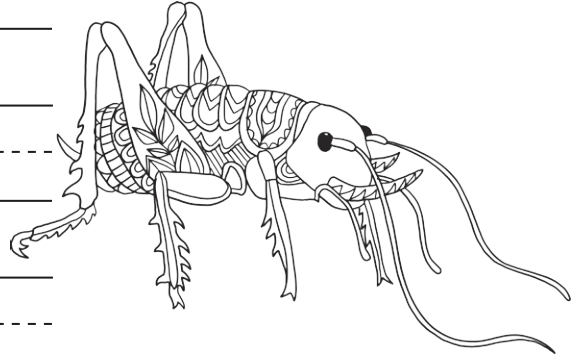
Wētā

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

w

t

e



Now copy this paragraph:

Wētā have spiny legs, curved tusks and no wings. There are over 70 different species found all over New Zealand, however the giant wētā species are only found on protected land. They like living in forests, caves, under stones and in trees. 16 types of wētā are at risk of being endangered, mainly due to predators like cats and rats.

Kekeno (New Zealand Fur Seal)

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

k

n

f



Now copy this paragraph:

The New Zealand fur seal, kekeno, is found on rocky shorelines throughout the country. They are also found in some parts of Australia. They eat small fish, eels and squid. They are now the most common seal found in New Zealand but only 40 years ago they were close to extinction.

Longfin Eel (Tuna)

Practise some key letters. Think about where you are starting.

l

g

s



Now copy this paragraph:

Longfin eels have an interesting life, travelling through both sea water and fresh water during their life cycle. They even swim through the Pacific Ocean near Tonga where they have their babies. The babies migrate back to New Zealand when they hatch, travelling up the streams and rivers through the country.