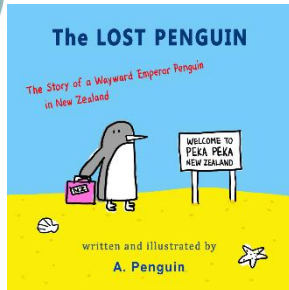
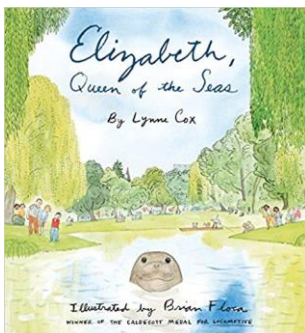


New Zealand Titles: ECC and Primary School settings



The lost penguin: The story of a wayward emperor penguin in New Zealand A Penguin, author and illustrator. (2015). CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

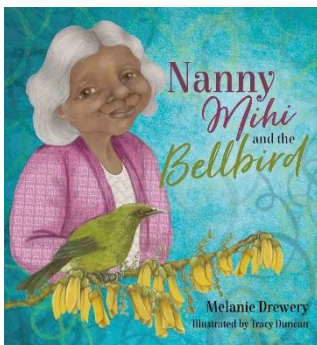
In 2011, a juvenile emperor penguin was found eating sand on a beach in New Zealand, some 2,000 miles from his home in Antarctica. He was taken to a local zoo where he was placed in a cold room to recover. With charming illustrations made with his flipper, "Happy Feet" (as he was known) recounts his ordeal. When he left for home later that year with a GPS tracker glued to his feathery bum, over quarter of a million people followed his release on the tracker's website. Blog spot link [here](#).



Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas

Lynne Cox and Caldecott Medal-winning illustrator Brian Floca. (2014). Schwartz & Wade.

The story of Elizabeth, a real-life elephant seal who made her home in the Avon River in the city of Christchurch, New Zealand. When Elizabeth decides to stretch out across a two-lane road, the citizens worry she might get hurt or cause traffic accidents, so a group of volunteers tows her out to sea. But Elizabeth swims all the way back to Christchurch. The volunteers catch her again and again—each time towing her farther, even hundreds of miles away—but, still, Elizabeth finds her way back home. Includes back matter with information about elephant seals. Links to a news item [here](#).



Nanny Mihi and the bellbird

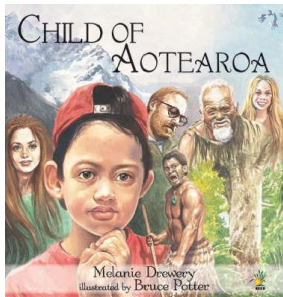
Melanie Drewery and Illustrator Tracy Duncan. (2018). Oratia Publishing.

Age: EEC and Primary

Every school holidays the kids go and stay with their nanny in her house by the sea. One morning Nanny Mihi gets the kids up early and they sit on the porch whistling a song until the sun comes up. Then they find out why - a bellbird appears and joins in the song. Whenever they come to stay after that, the bellbird is there to whistle the kids' song. But in spring, there is no bellbird! What has happened? Nanny Mihi and the Bellbird is a charming story about love for family and nature.

Link to publishers website [here](#) which includes a factsheet for the classroom [here](#).

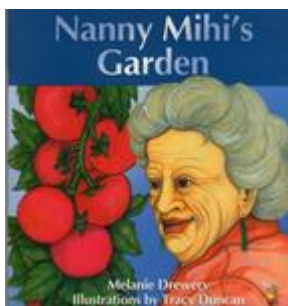
Link to NZ Book Council author biography [here](#).



Child of Aotearoa

Age: EEC and Primary

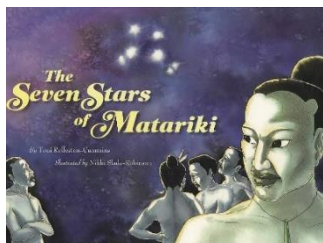
Melanie Drewery, author and illustrator. (2004). Raupo Publishing (NZ) Ltd. Melanie Drewery spins a magical tale, weaving together the ties from the past that bind us all to this land called Aotearoa. Across the years we have all formed links and connections to the land we call home and no matter where we are in the world we will always feel that pull back to this special place. Link to NZ Book Council author biography [here](#).



Nanny Mihi's garden

Age: EEC and Primary

Melanie Drewery and Illustrator Tracy Duncan. (2002). Raupo Publishing (NZ) Ltd. Summary: For young readers this is another story about the grandchildren visiting Nanny Mihi for the holidays. Together they plant a garden, but the hungry chickens and snails are keeping a watchful eye and it's just a matter of time before havoc breaks loose. Link to NZ Book Council author biography <http://www.bookcouncil.org.nz/writer/drewery-melanie>

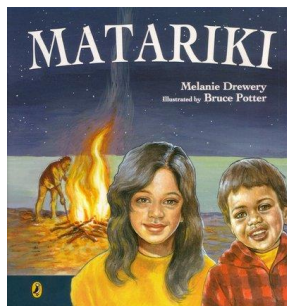


Te Huihui o Matariki / The Seven Stars of Matariki

Age: Primary

Toni Rolleston-Cummins as the Seven Stars of Matariki, translated into te reo Māori by Hone Morris. (2008). Huia.

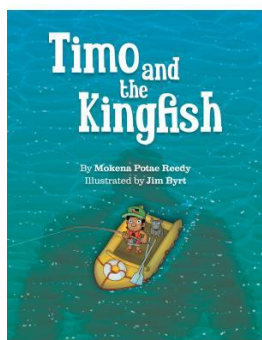
An adventurous young man called Mitai lives with his seven handsome brothers in the village of Maketu. He watches his brothers become bewitched by seven beautiful women. Realising the women are patupaiarehe, fairy women, he knows they must be cast far away. They are given to Urutengangana, the god of the stars, and he places the patupaiarehe in the heavens farthest from the earth. Yet once a year, at winter solstice, he allows their beauty to shine in the eastern sky. Publishers website [here](#) and video made by Wellington City Libraries, in association with Huia Publishers [here](#).



Matariki

Age: EEC and Primary

Melanie Drewery and Illustrator Bruce Potter. (2016). Penguin. 'Tonight we have to go to bed really early,' said Mum. 'Tomorrow morning we are going to have a surprise.' But what event would be so special to get you up in the middle of a cold New Zealand winter? Matariki is rising and the New Year is on its way. Publisher website <https://www.penguin.co.nz/books/matariki-9780143503866> and link to NZ Book Council author biography <http://www.bookcouncil.org.nz/writer/drewery-melanie>

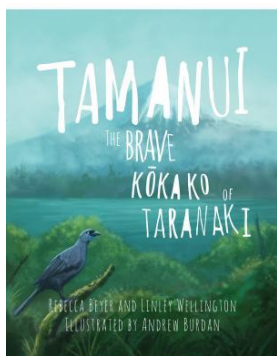


Timo te Kaihī Ika / Timo and the Kingfish

Mokena Potae Reedy and illustrator Jim Byrat. (2012). Huia.

Age: EEC and primary

Timo sets off to catch a big fish to prove to his father and brothers that he is a real fisherman, but the adventure that he and his dog Pou have at sea is more than Timo was expecting. Timo's fishing trip starts to unravel when he doesn't follow the custom of throwing back the first fish caught. Publisher's website [here](#).

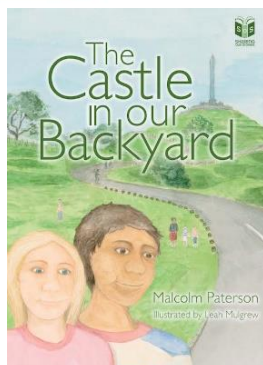


Tamanui: Te Kōkako Mōrehu o Taranaki / Tamanui: The Brave Kōkako of Taranaki

Age: EEC and Primary

The Taranaki forest is changing and kōkako are finding it difficult to get food and protect their chicks.

Rats and possums are raiding nests, taking chicks and eggs, and the kōkako Tamanui has lost his brothers and sisters. In the quiet forest, he hears a kōkako call, but flying towards it, he is caught in a net. Taken to Mount Bruce, he adapts to a new environment, raises chicks and becomes important in the survival of the kōkako. Based on a true story, Tamanui is displayed at Puke Ariki, New Plymouth. Publishers website [here](#) and Tamanui's website [here](#).

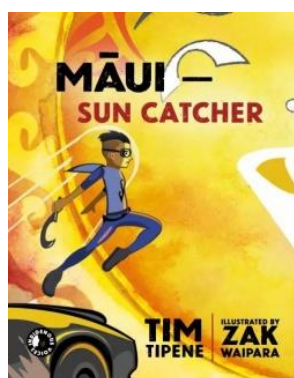


Te Pā Kaha kei tō Tātou lāri / The castle in our backyard

Malcolm Paterson and Illustrator: Leah Mulgrew. (2010). Huia.

Age: Primary

Tui and his cousin Jennifer are much too busy playing a video game to want to visit Maungakiekie/One Tree Hill. But then Nanny Marei tells them the mountain's got giants and fortresses, just like their game. Explore Maungakiekie with Tui and Jennifer as they travel back into its history – meeting the Goddess of Fire, Māori tribes, Chinese gardeners, Sir John Logan Campbell, and the tourists of today. Publisher's website <https://www.oratia.co.nz/product/the-castle-in-our-backyard/>

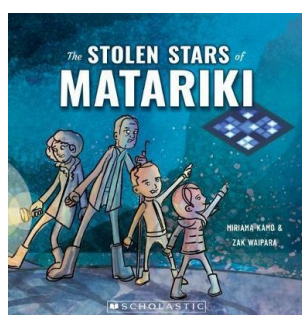


Māui - Sun catcher

Tim Tipene and Illustrated by Zak Waipara with translations by Rob Ruha. (2016). Oratia Media.

Age: EEC and Primary

In this modern retelling of the beloved myth, Māui is a schoolboy who lives with his mother and four older brothers in a city where the day is never long enough to get things done. Māui grasps the mantle to catch the sun. The Sun who's always on the run. With their woven flax net, the brothers drive to the pit where the Sun lives and make their play to slow the day. This bilingual book– in English and Māori – brings Māui into the 21st century in a fun and colourful retelling. Publisher's website [here](#) and review by Constable Bryan and the library group for MHF [here](#).



The stolen stars of Matariki

Miriama Kamo and Illustrator Zak Waipara. (2018). Scholastic NZ.

Age: EEC and Primary

Written by television presenter, producer and journalist Miriama Kamo inspired by her upbringing. She hopes this book will not only bring happiness and uplift Matariki but also highlight issues relating to Lake Wairewa. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the book is donated to the restoration of the Te Roto o Wairewa (Lake Forsyth) which features in the book. The book has been published in both English and te reo Māori, and the English version has te reo throughout. News item link [here](#) and a review on The Reader Blog [here](#).



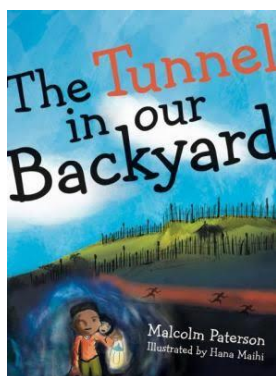
Birdbrain CD by Fatcat & Fishface (CD)

Fatcat & Fishface for the Department of Conservation.

Age: EEC and Primary

Fatcat & Fishface's cheeky style and offbeat humour have been compared to Spike Milligan, Roald Dahl and Flight of the Conchords. The CD features 13 original songs in honour of our feathered friends. Meet the smartest bird in the world (kea), the nest invading shining cuckoo, the lonely albatross at sea, dancing penguins on the ice, and the nightclub of kākāpō, morepork and kiwi. The dawn chorus will never sound the same again.

Department of Conservation Education resources website [here](#) and the producer's website [here](#).



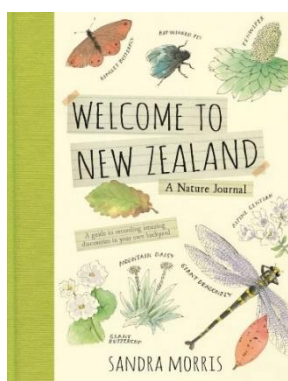
The tunnel in our backyard

Malcolm Paterson and Illustrator Hana Maihi. (2016). Huia.

Age: Primary

A picture book that brings to life for children the connection with the land around them – a land full of stories and reminders of history. Jennifer and her whanau go to Te Atatu to help her cousin Tui's family move house to Mount Albert. What they learn from Nanny on the way about Matariki and the Waterview Tunnel leads on to a big discovery once they reach Mount Albert – that old tunnels also run under here! Under the guidance of Nanny and new neighbour Tefere, the kids relive old and more recent history and follow in the giant footsteps of the ancestor Ruarangi from Mount Albert down to Meola Reef in Point Chevalier. Publisher's website

<https://www.oratia.co.nz/product/the-tunnel-in-our-backyard>



Welcome to New Zealand: A nature journal

Sandra Morris, author and illustrator. (2015). Candlewick Press.

Age: Primary to secondary school

Kids love to be outside, but it's easy to miss all the astounding wonders of nature, unless you look closely. Have you ever noticed that ladybugs have different numbers of spots? When you look at a leaf, what do you see: is it pointed or round, long or short, soft or hard? In this idea book Morris shares her love for the flora and fauna of her native New Zealand and encourages budding scientists to record their own discoveries in creative ways, no matter where they live.