



EDUCATION AT THE ROYAL ALBATROSS CENTRE

The Royal Albatross Centre is an excellent venue for learning experiences outside the classroom. Nowhere else in New Zealand could your students view the breeding colony of Albatross and venture through underground tunnels to find a Disappearing Gun and hear stories of the Pukekura Pa.

Students have the opportunity to:

- Engage with the experts
- Get involved in environmental actions
- Interact with local history in Fort Tairaroa
- View unique wildlife in the Richdale Observatory
- Discover the cultural importance of Pukekura



To find out more and book your next visit:

Phone: (03) 478 0499

Email: education@albatross.org.nz

Web: www.albatross.org.nz/education

Royal Albatross Centre

Primary School Programmes

All of the programmes are:

Interactive, student focused

Linked to the NZ Curriculum (Social Science, Science).

Focused on key competencies and values

Litter Free Oceans

Join the Royal Albatross Centre and Sustainable Coastlines to be part of a grassroots solution to litter in Aotearoa. Students will carry out a marine debris survey at Pilots Beach (adjacent to the Royal Albatross Centre) and contribute to a national citizen science project. Students will investigate the impact of marine debris on the local wildlife and investigate the source of the problem as part of the programme.

Time: 2 hours

Age focus: Years 4-8

Curriculum Area: Science (Level 2-4, Living World)

Toroa at Taiaroa

From fortifications to conservation, discover how the use of Pukekura (Taiaroa Head) has changed over time. Its importance to Kai Tahu stems from its use as a Pa site (~300 years ago). The lighthouse and pilot station (1864) were set up to aid the ships travelling along the coast. In 1886 it was a set up as a fortification site and a disappearing gun was installed. Now Taiaroa Head is home to the only mainland breeding colony for the Royal Albatross in the world.

Time: 2 hours

Age focus: Years 1-3

Curriculum Area: Science (Level 2-4, Living World)

Save our Seabirds

Find out how the Department of Conservation rangers look after the wildlife at Pukekura (Taiaroa Head). Track albatross travelling over the southern ocean in search of food. Investigate how we have had both positive and negative impacts on the animals breeding on the headland and think about what you can do to help.

Time: 2 hours

Age focus: Years 4-8

Curriculum Area: Science (Level 2-4, Living World)

Flight and Feathers

Birds are finely tuned flying machines, with the wing and flight style suited perfectly to the environment in which they live. View albatross and other seabirds breeding at Taiaroa Head and look at how the shape of the wing is related to how the bird flies. Discuss how flight mode is related to the feeding, breeding and range stay up in the air and compare the principals of flight in birds and airplanes.

Time: 2 hours

Age focus: Years 4-8

Curriculum Area: Science (Level 2-4, Living World)

Tracking Blue Penguins

Learn about the Blue Penguin ecology and conservation issues and take on a role of penguin scientist. Schools are invited to donate and plant coastal native species in the penguin reserve.

Time: 2 hours

Age focus: Years 4-8

Curriculum Area: Nature of Science (Level 2-4, Investigating in Science, Participating and Contributing), Science (Level 2-4, Living World), Social Sciences (Level 3).

A is for Albatross, B is for Bird

Discover how Royal Albatross are adapted for life at sea. Investigate its life cycle and where they go when they leave Taiaroa Head. Find out what other birds live and breed on the headland. Experience how the wildlife rangers look after these birds and why they are special to Maori.

Time: 2 hours

Age focus: Years 1-3

Curriculum Area: Science (Level 2-4, Living World).

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