

Tracking Blue Penguins

Objective: To understand blue penguin behaviours and adaptations, and to investigate what management techniques are needed to help preserve the population of Little Blue Penguins at Pukekura.

Programme Description: Find out how Blue penguins are adapted for life at sea and why they return to Pukekura most nights. The students will learn about penguin ecology and conservation issues and then take on the role of a penguin scientists to look at ways to collect valuable scientific information about numbers, behaviours, and ways to better manage the population at Pukekura. Students will be involved in monitoring plant and other wildlife in the reserve and helping with some habitat restoration. Schools are invited donate and plant coastal native species in the reserve.

Time: 2 hours (Programme Available: April – September only)
Bookings Essential – programme doesn't include Blue Penguin viewing.

Age Focus: Years 4-8

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

Cost: \$4/person (please note the Blue Penguin Tour, if combined with the education programme is an additional \$5/person) The Blue Penguin tour last 1 hour – 1 hour 15 minutes. Spaces are limited.



Itinerary

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| | Arrive, meet guide at reception – please arrive 10 minutes early |
| 0 min | Educational Room (30 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Programme objectives– Blue Penguin ecology– Tracking research |
| 30 min | Display Area (30 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Blue Penguin scavenger hunt– Design of nest boxes.– Blue penguin conservation game |
| 1 hour | Pilots Beach (45 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Observations of nesting habitat– 5 min bird count– Habitat restoration (weeding etc) |
| 1.75 hours | Education Rm (15 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Discussion of tracking research and conservation issues |
| 2.15 hours | Depart |