Where is it?

a wildlife hunt for kiwi kids

Ned Barraud

Where is it in the
ancient forest?

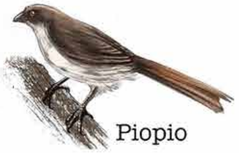
haast's eagle

giant moa

adzebill

New Zealand
quail

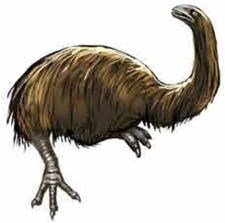
laughing
owl



Piopio

huia

long billed
wren



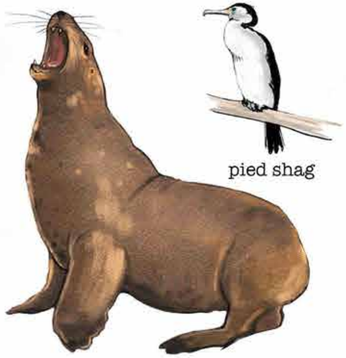
little bush moa

Where is it... **on the beach?**

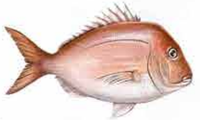
kahawai

katipo spider

stingray


sea lion

pied shag


snapper

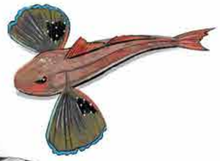
cook turbin shell

black back gull

oyster catcher

blue bottle

black-fronted tern


red gurnard

little blue penguin

red-legged gull

paddle crab

scollop shell

ostrich foot shell

Where is it... **in the estuary?**

bar-tailed Godwit

Stilt

black swan

spur-winged plover

Rig shark

royal spoonbill

Flounder

mud crab

kingfisher

cockle

paradise shel ducks

black shag

tuatua

Yellow-eyed mullet

white faced heron

pipi

banded dotterel

Where is it... **in the forest?**

grey warbler

stoat

fallow deer

tui

kereru

bellbird

wasp

tomtit

fantail

morepork

tree weta

long-tailed cuckco

forest gecko

velvet worm

giant land snail

Where is it... **in the wetlands?**

white heron

inanga

spotless crake

grey duck and ducklings

damsel fly

dabchick

giant kokopu

bell frog

swamp harrier

pukeko

dragonfly

coot

bittern

fern bird

glossary

Estuary

banded dotterel/tūturiwhatu: With a brown upperpart and chestnut breast band, the banded dotterel also has a characteristic run-stop-peck-run foraging behaviour. It nests out in the open shingle, relying on camouflage to keep the eggs and chicks safe. However, this makes it very vulnerable to introduced predators such as rats, cats and stoats.

bar-tailed godwit/kuaka: The godwit breeds in western Alaska and migrates to New Zealand for summertime. The flight takes 8 or 9 days and covers a distance of about 12,000 kilometres. This is the longest nonstop flight of any non-seabird and unlike a seabird, there is no chance of snacking along the way.

black swans/kakīānau: Black swans were introduced from Victoria, Australia in the 1860s. There are now about 50,000 black swans living here. It is a large black bird, with red eyes and dark grey legs; its bill is bright red with a white band, and it's usually seen floating on water. As a herbivore, it prefers submerged freshwater plants.

cockle/tuangi: Cockles are found just beneath the surface on tidal mudflats and sandflats. They burrow using their 'foot'. They feed on plankton filtered from the surrounding water.

kingfisher/kōtare: Found in freshwater, estuary and open-country habitats, the kingfisher's diet consists of small crabs, tadpoles, freshwater small fish, to insects, spiders, lizards, mice and even small birds. They are often seen perched on power lines, or on rocks or branches near water.

little black shag/kawaupaka: The smallest of the shag species, they feed on small fish, eels and crustaceans; also frogs, tadpoles and insects. Shags need to dry their plumage after shallow diving for food. Their feathers get wet because they have no oil glands but it is also what allows them to dive and submerge easily.

paradise shelducks/pūtangitangi: The male and female pairs mostly stay close together. The female has a white head and an orange-brown body; the male has a glossy green-black head and dark body. Paradise shelducks are herbivorous, mainly eating pasture grasses and clover.

pied stilt/poaka: This black-and-white wader is very clever at distracting predators from its nest by pretending to have a broken leg or wing. They feed together and roost together in what can become large and noisy flocks.

pipi: Found in sandbanks in the middle or near the mouth of an estuary, the pipi is a common edible bivalve – there can be over 1000 of them per square metre. The pipi has a hinge near the middle of its shell.

rig/makō: With small, flat, tile-like teeth, the rig uses these to crush and eat shellfish and crabs. Rig, or lemon fish as it's otherwise known, is a common fish of choice in fish and chip shops.

royal spoonbill/kotuku ngutupapa: The royal spoonbill is one of six spoonbill species worldwide, and the only one that breeds in New Zealand. It was first recorded breeding at Ōkārito, South Westland, in 1949. It eats mainly fish in freshwater, and shrimps in tidal flats; also other crustaceans, aquatic insects and frogs. It feeds by sweeping its bill from side to side in the shallow water.

sand flounder/pātiki: The flounder is an extremely flattened freshwater fish. The baby sand flounder begins its life with an eye on each side of its head. As it grows out of this larval stage into the juvenile stage, one eye moves to the right side, leaving the other blind.

short-eyed mud crab/pāpaka: A large strong crab, with brownish-grey shell and legs, it commonly sits just outside its tunnel, ready to retreat at any sign of danger.

tuatua: It is like a cockle and pipi, and also found buried in sand in low tide throughout Aotearoa/New Zealand. However, you are only allowed to harvest 150 per person, per day. The hinge of the tuatua is more sharply edged than that of a pipi.

white-faced heron/matuku: This is a tall, elegant, blue-grey bird, common throughout most of Australasia. It is found at rocky shores and estuary mudflats, as well as near the edges of lakes and on farm ponds. White-faced herons catch and eat small fish, crabs, worms, insects, spiders, mice, lizards, tadpoles and frogs.

yellow-eyed mullet/kātaha: These fish are common in sheltered harbours and estuaries around Aotearoa, usually swimming in schools. They are often caught by kids fishing from wharves.

Wetlands

Australasian bittern/matuku hūrepo: This is one of New Zealand's most difficult birds to find and is a threatened species due to the destruction of its wetland habitat to create farmland and towns. Males attract females with a deep booming call. You can occasionally see a bittern along wetland edges, drains, flooded paddocks or roadsides. It will often adopt a 'freeze' stance, its bill pointing skyward, even when its caught out in the open.

Australasian crested grebe: A rare and distinctive diving bird, it is found only in the South Island, mostly on subalpine lakes. It has a slender neck, black bill, a black double crest and bright chestnut and black cheek frills, which it uses in its mating displays. It carries its young on its back when swimming.

dabchick/weweia: The dabchick has large, powerful lobed feet (each unwebbed toe has a stiff flap along both sides), set far back on their body to propel and steer themselves in water. It can dive 4 metres for food, mostly catches aquatic insects, and can hold its breath for around 40 seconds. The adult gives short chattering calls during breeding season and occasionally when alarmed.