Hoiho/yellow-eyed penguin

Hoiho means ‘noise shouter’—and they are pretty noisy! They nest on shore hidden under thick shrubs and flaxes so their loud call helps them find their mates and chicks. They have beautiful yellow eyes and a yellow feather headband.

They are only found here in Aotearoa/New Zealand and are thought to be the world’s rarest penguin.

Like all penguins, they cannot fly, but their paddle-like flippers are excellent for ‘flying’ through the water as they hunt for food. Their eyes are designed for seeing under water.

You can help penguins by keeping your dog on a leash at the beach or by asking your parents to drive carefully along any coast road, especially at dusk and dawn. To support the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust, visit www.yellow-eyedpenguin.org.nz.

To make the mask

Colour in the bird.
Cut out the head and headband along the outlines.
Cut out two eyes.
Cut out the beak along the dotted line (leave top attached).
Push out the beak and pinch-fold its tip.
Staple or sellotape the head strap to fit.