



# Medlands

## Aotea/Great Barrier Island



Photo: Pat Sanderson



Department of Conservation  
Te Papa Atawhai



### DOC huts and campgrounds

Want to explore the island's unique outdoors? Don't miss out on a place to stay, book before you arrive via [www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)

DOC base located in Okiwi  
09 429 0044  
[greatbarrier@doc.govt.nz](mailto:greatbarrier@doc.govt.nz)



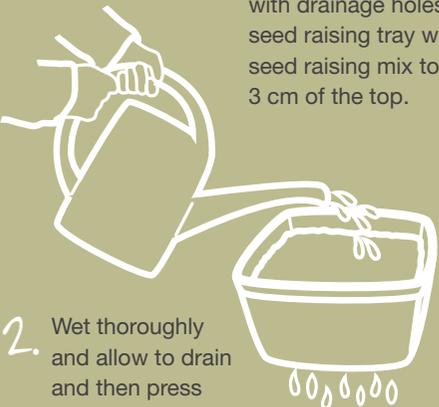
Department of Conservation  
Te Papa Atawhai

On Mt Heale. Photo: Andris Apse

## Grow your own native plants

You can help restore a forest by growing your own native seedlings. Collect ripe seeds from plants near your home (check that you are allowed to first) and follow the directions below. Find out more by looking on the DOC website under 'Grow Native Plants'.

1. Fill a clean container (e.g. an icecream container with drainage holes) or seed raising tray with seed raising mix to within 3 cm of the top.



2. Wet thoroughly and allow to drain and then press down the mix.



3. Scatter seeds on top and press down with a flat piece of wood. Cover seeds with a thin layer of seed raising mix and then fine pumice.



4. Keep damp, warm and shaded until germination occurs.

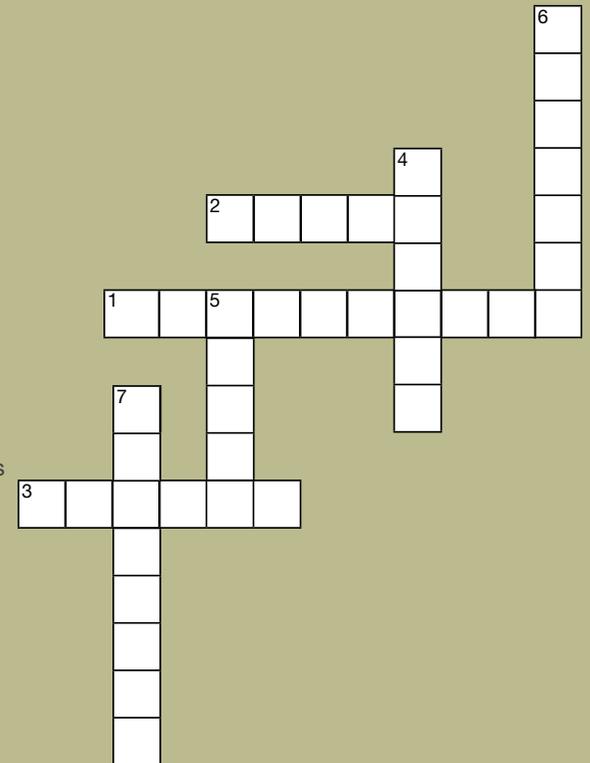
## Crossword

Across

1. New Zealand Christmas tree
2. The largest tree on Great Barrier Island
3. Dune plant known as Tane's eyebrows

Down

4. A young kauri tree
5. Woody weed from Australia
6. Also known as lancewood, the leaves change shape as the tree grows
7. Native plant with large, soft, furry leaves



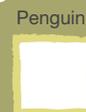
## Species spotting

Where do you find: ●spinifex, pīngao and marram grass ●harestalk grass and sand bindweed ●sand hoppers, tuatua, and sand dollars ●seaweeds – how many different types?



## Footprints in the sand

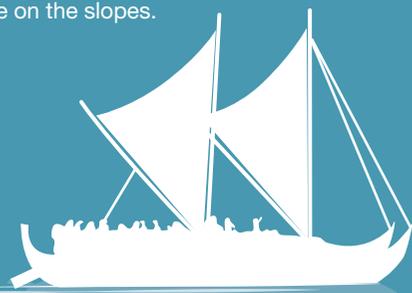
What lives on the sand dunes? How many tracks of each type of print can you find? Which prints occur the most? Which are not native to New Zealand?



## Estuaries and Māori villages

Local Māori liken estuaries to supermarkets – they provide nursery areas for kai moana and food resources for whānau (families).

Look towards the hillsides upstream of the estuary. Imagine a waka (canoe) coming from the sea into the estuary to a marae and whare on the slopes.



The Māori name for Medlands is Oruawhoro. What history can you find out about this area?



Draw kai you could collect from the beach and estuary to fill the kete below. What are the equivalent supermarket items?

## Shell sleuth!



Can you identify a shell by feel alone?  
Close your eyes (tight!) and feel a shell given to you – size, shape, texture ...  
With the shell safely hidden, see if you can find the same type along the shore  
Get creative and start digging. Build yourself a life sized sand sculpture. It might be a turtle, kayak, waka ... hop in and have fun.

