

CHALLENGE 14

Be a Junior DOC Ranger for the Day

Explore our ngahere - native bush



Being a DOC Ranger is all about protecting New Zealand's wildlife. An important part of this role is to be a good observer of nature.



Understanding how plants and animals should look and even feel are some of the first steps in learning how to care for our environment.

So, how about spending some time in our beautiful ngahere/bush and try one or more of these tasks.

For the adventure take a sketch pad with pencils and someone with a camera or smart phone.

Task A: Close up

Do some exploring up close.

Look at what you find in the leaf litter on the ground.

Choose something interesting based on its colour, shape or texture.

Take a close up photo or do a drawing.

Label your photo or drawing as DOC Task A.

We will see if an actual DOC Ranger can guess what you have drawn/photographed.

Task B: Skink house

Have you seen the tuatara and the other reptiles at Kiwi North?

Have you ever seen lizards or skinks basking on rocks when you have been out exploring?

What do you think would make an ideal skink house?

While you are out in the ngahere/bush – decide on a spot and create a skink house.

Take a photo .

Label your photo as DOC Task B.

Task C: Rock painting

Decide what was your favourite native plant or animal you saw on your adventure.

When you get home, paint it on a rock.

You can hide your rock in a public spot like the Quarry Gardens, Botanica, around the Hātea Loop – or if you can't bear to be parted from it, find a spot in your garden.

Either way, take a photo of it.

Label your photo as DOC Task C.

Task D: Found object art

Leaves, stones, twigs and flax make excellent art and craft materials. They can be easily found on your bush walk adventures or even in your backyard.

Have an art session outside and make temporary designs, sculptures, paintings or collages with the materials you find on your adventures.

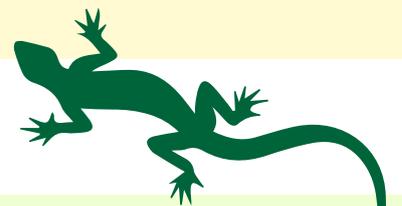
Take a photo.

Label your photo as DOC Task D.

Send your labelled drawings and photos to us before **Friday 14 January 2022** by:

- upload via our website: www.wdc.govt.nz/library/Great-Summer-Challenge
- email to whglibrary@wdc.govt.nz and type **Great Summer Challenge** in the subject line.
- take it into one of our libraries.

Make sure your name and age is on it.



These tasks are based on Department of Conservation's brochure **Whangārei Conservation Adventures** www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/events/conservation-week-2021/brochures/whangarei-conservation-adventures-brochure.pdf

Additional ideas for outside are on the Department of Conservation website - there are medals to be won! www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/toyota-kiwi-guardians