

# HAURAKI GULF MARINE PARK TĪKAPA MOANA



YOUNG  
**OCEAN**  
EXPLORERS

## LESSON 16 - WHAI / RAYS

### Overview

Find out about the different types of rays that live in Tīkapa Moana / the Hauraki Gulf.

## NZ CURRICULUM LINKS:

Learning areas:	Achievement objectives:
<b>Science</b>	Identification and classification.
<b>Te Ao Māori</b> Te reo (language), tikanga (customs and traditional values)	By learning te reo Māori, students are able to participate with understanding and confidence in situations where te reo and tikanga Māori predominate and to integrate language and cultural understandings into their lives ; strengthen Aotearoa New Zealand's identity in the world.
<b>English</b>	Listening, Reading, Viewing

### Learning intention

Tamariki are learning to understand about the different types of rays in Tīkapa Moana / the Hauraki Gulf.

### Success criteria

Children can explain the difference between eagle rays and sting rays.

# LEARNING SEQUENCE

Based on the Inquiry model



## Inspire

Provoke curiosity  
and wonder



## Explore/Educate

Gather information  
Use / apply  
learning



## Activate

Reflect and act

### Background information for teachers:

New Zealand has 26 species of rays and skates. The most well known are [eagle rays](#) and [stingrays](#).

Rays and skates are wide, flattened fish belonging to the same family as sharks, and sharing some of the same features: they have skeletons of cartilage, not bone, and open gill slits.

Rays and skates also differ from sharks. They have blunt rather than sharp teeth, and their gill slits are on the belly rather than along the sides.

Although skates and rays have similar, kite-shaped bodies, skates are usually not as large or as venomous. Rays are not aggressive animals, but if attacked or accidentally stood on they can inflict painful and serious wounds.

Skates lay leathery eggs, known as mermaid's or sailor's purses, on the sea floor.

Other rays carry their offspring inside them and give birth to live young.

[Te ara - rays and skates](#)

# LESSON PLAN

## Whai / rays

Teachers are encouraged to choose and adjust activities to suit the learning needs and interests of their tamariki.

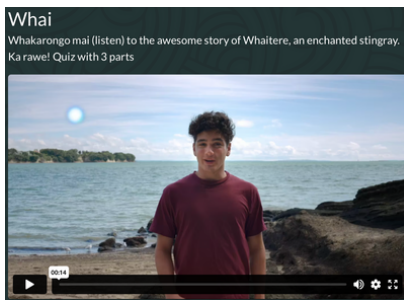


## Inspire



Allow approximately 15 mins

- **Watch** this Young Ocean Explorers video – [Whai](#). Tiki tells the story of Whaitere – and shows how rays are special taonga.



*Video is a quick 3 part quiz*

- OPTIONAL EXTRA – [Read this story about Whaitere – the magical whai / ray.](#) Choose some tamariki to act out the story as the teacher reads it.



## Educate

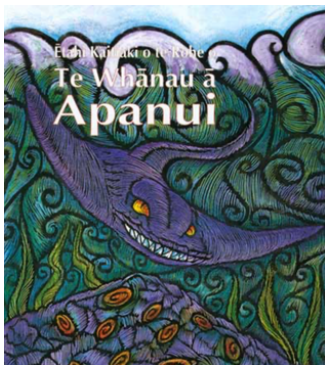
 Allow approximately 30 mins

- **Look** at the difference between [eagle rays](#) and sting rays. [Read this information from Kelly Tarltons.](#) You could also watch this video 'Rileys amazing ray adventure' from Young Ocean Explorers.
- **Make** a venn diagram to show similarities and differences - [here is a free one you can print if you like.](#) What is the same about them both? What is different?
- **Te ao Maori** - explore some Maori ideas linked to whai / rays. [Toi tangata video](#)



*Video is 2:09 minutes*

- [Te ara- whai kaitiaki](#)





## Activate

 *Timing will vary*

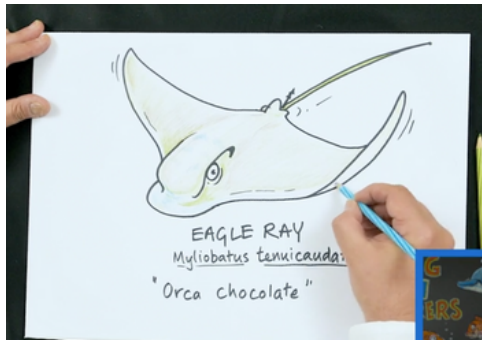
- **Go outside and pick up at least 1 piece of plastic or other rubbish -** make a difference in YOUR community. Log your rubbish data on the

[21 day challenge graph.](#)

*Each daily entry goes into the draw to win amazing prizes for your class and school*

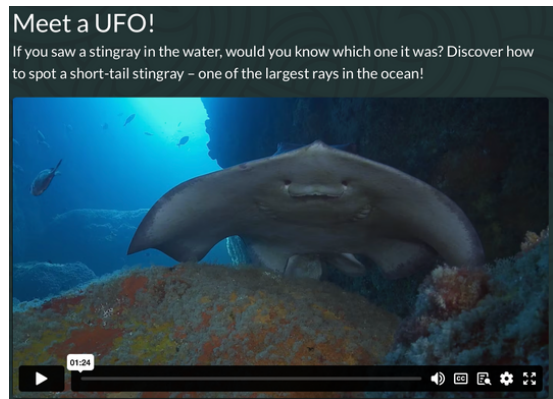


- Learn to draw an [eagle ray](#) with Young Ocean Explorers.



## EXTRA LEARNING IDEAS AND RESOURCES

- **VOCAB** – find out what these big words mean. Viviparous, elasmobranch, cartilage
- **Explore** these [videos about rays from Young Ocean Explorers](#).
- **Watch** – Young Ocean Explorer video – [Meet a UFO!](#)  
*Video is 1:24 minutes*



### Find out more:

There are many other lesson ideas from Young Ocean Explorers – choose another one. [Young Ocean Explorers](#) You can find out about some of the amazing creatures that live in or visit the Hauraki Gulf. There are also lessons on some of the amazing places in Tikapa Moana. Or you could explore ideas of how people are connected to the moana / ocean.