Tara and the Taniwha

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The chief Tara discovered three lakes in the Hawke's Bay district where water fowl, eels, trout, whitebait, and shellfish abounded.

The lakes were named Poukawa, Roto-a-Kiwa, a tiny lake on a hill top which became his bathing pool and Roto-o-Tara, which was named for him. All the food products of the lakes were made tapu by Tara, and no one dared to eat them, but brought them all to the chief.

At this time an enormous taniwha, Awarua-o-Porirua, lived in the Porirua Estuary near Wellington. It became restless, left its home, and travelled towards Hawkes Bay accompanied by a companion.

The Raemoiri or Upokoiri, the people with overhanging brows or suspended heads, who lived at Porangahau, resisted the invasion of the monsters. Many of the defenders were killed and eaten, but eventually one of the taniwha was slain. Awarua-o-Porirua escaped. Presently he came to Roto-o-Tara and made this his home, digging himself into the bed of the lake.

Before long Tara realised that his food supplies were dwindling rapidly. When he discovered that the predator was a taniwha, he attacked it fiercely. It was a notable battle, for Tara was a warrior of renown, while Awarua was numbered among the most powerful taniwha that Aotearoa has known.

The waters of the lake were lashed to fur, like the waves of the sea in a storm. Awarua was defeated, and retreated to Porirua, but in its struggles its tail stirred up the bed of the lake and formed an island which was afterwards known as Awarua-o-Porirua.

TARA AND THE TANIWHA

KEY WORDS

NGA KUPU

.Tara   .chief
.lake   .Poukawa
.eels   .water fowl
.trout   .estuary

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HAU ORA & TINANA KORI

peke.........jump
ngoki.......crawl
omaoma...run
hikoi........walk

FOOD - KAI

Preservation / cooking
eels..tuna...shellfish..kaimoana
trout - taraute   whitebait - ingana

LANGUAGE

TE REO

- Read legend.
- Discuss the characters and name them.
- Recall sequence of events using charts or concertina / grid.

- Make a short poem using words from legend.

VISUAL ARTS

NGA MAHI TOI

MUSIC - Taniwha song
DRAMA - Mime out the legend
DANCE - Rhythm
           Collecting environmental
           material for sound effects,
           shells threaded together,
           sticks, stones etc.
        "The Taniwha Dance"
ART -   Draw or make a Taniwha
           using paints, glitter, silver paper, etc.

SOCIAL STUDIES

TIKANGA-A-IWI

Respect / caring of our local lakes
maybe
Visit Lake Tutira, Lake Poukawa

Kei raro i te moana
Ko taniwha ahau
Kei te matekai
Kei te matekai
a taniwha
a taniwha
Kaua e mataku
Kaua e ohorere
Ko taniwha ahau
no raro i te moana
Taniwha, taniwha
taniwha, taniwha
Ko taniwha ahau
no raro i te moana

TARA AND THE TANIWHA

CLOZE

The chief T_____[1] discovered three l_____[2] in the Hawke's Bay district where water f_____[3]; e_____[4], trout, whiteb_____[5] and shellfish abounded. The l_____[6] were named Poukawa, _____[7], a tiny l_____[8] on a hill top which became his bathing _____[9] and Roto-a-Tara, which was named after him. All the _____[10] products of the l_____[11] were made _____[12], by Tara, and _____[13] dared to eat _____[14], but brought them all to the _____[15].

CLOZE READING QUESTIONS

1. What is the difference between a lake and an estuary?

2. Where did Awarua-o-Porirua the taniwha come from?

3. Name the lake that he dug himself in.

4. Who won the battle between Tara and the Taniwha?

5. What did Awarua-o-Porirua leave behind?

SCIENCE

Research: How were these lakes formed? Compare these with Lake Taupo. Write a summary on your findings.

How many two letter words can you make from "TANIWHA" in 1 minute

SEQUENCE

Put these events in the order in which they occurred in the story.

T / F   Chief Tara discovered one lake.

T / F   He found kina, paua and snapper in the lake.

T / F   The lake was called Moukawa.

T / F   All the food products were made tapu by Tara.

T / F   Awarua-o-Porirua, the seal lived in the estuary, Wellington.

ART IDEAS

1. Make a taniwha.
   use *cardboard
        *paints
        *special effects-
         toothpick
         silver paper, etc

2. Make a lake and all the living things you find in it.
   use *cellophane paper
        *brown paper
        *paint, etc