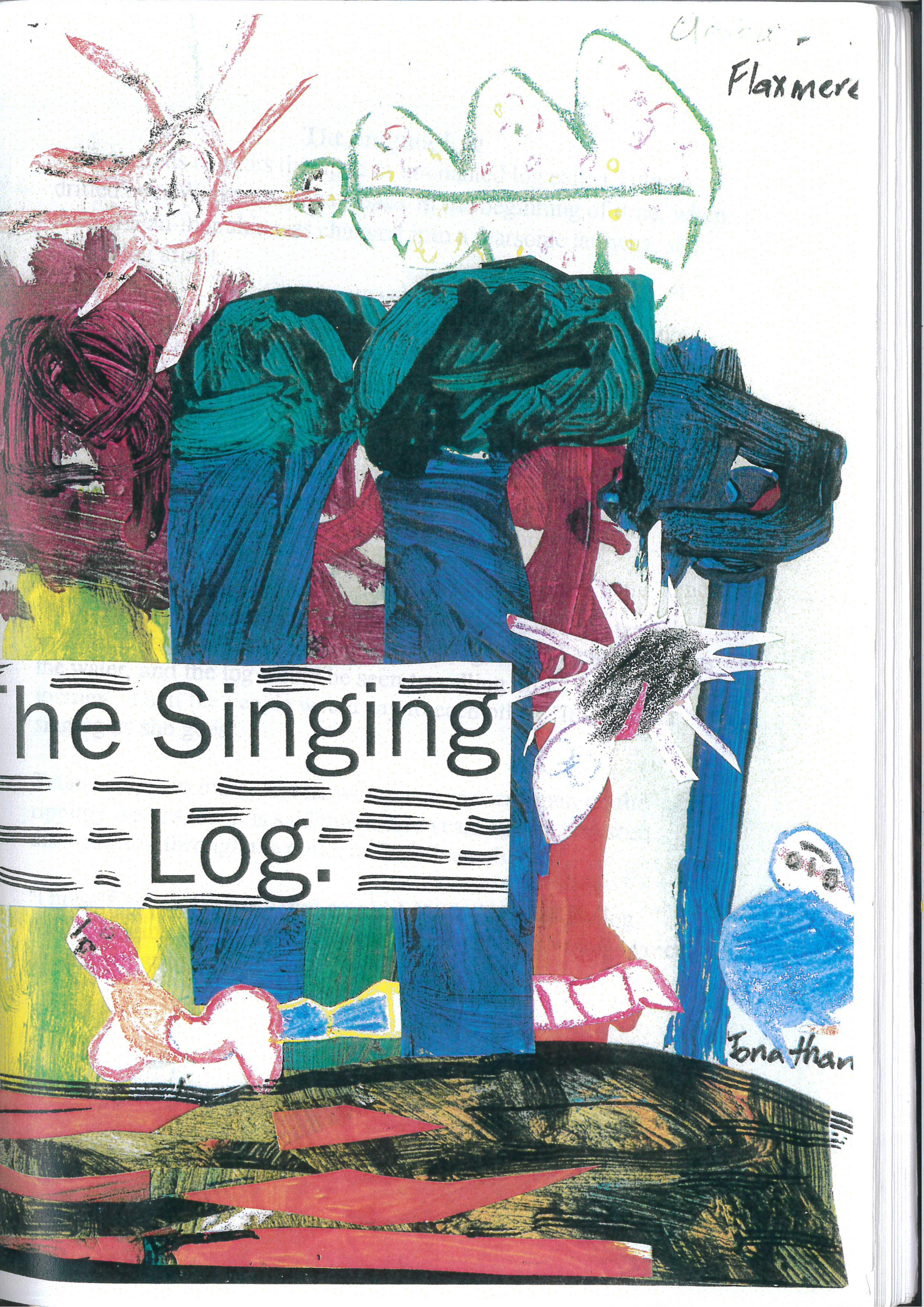


Flaxmere

# The Singing Log.



Jonathan



### The Singing Log

For hundreds of years the tipua or enchanted log called Tutaua drifted over Waikare-moana. Back in the beginning of time, when the girl Hau-mapuhia was changed into a fearsome taniwha, she set the log afloat.

When the Māori people came and lived by the shore of the lake, they were startled to hear plaintive voice, and even more surprised when they found that it came from the floating log. They learned the songs it sang and committed them to memory.

Sometimes Tutaua was stranded on the shore, and they learned that if anyone touched it or interfered with it in any way, misfortune would come to him and, the next morning, the enchanted log would have gone.

But whether it was left alone, or whether anyone had the temerity to touch it, sooner or later the plaintive song would be heard across the water, and the log would be seen travelling on its endless journey. Then the people would say to each other, "It is Tutaua singing as she goes".

Tutaua sings no more, and he will never be seen again on the rippling waters, for it is said that many years ago he was seen disappearing through the outlet at Te Wharawhara.

"I myself heard Tutaua," said an old Māori. "I heard the log demon singing far out upon the waters, singing in a strange voice, like the whistling of the wind".

# THE SINGING LOG

YO-Y3

## LANGUAGE TE REO

- Close Reading Questions
1. Who was the main character in the story?
  2. Can you describe the character?
  3. Was there a problem in the story?
  4. Whereabouts in N.Z was the story set?
  5. Does the story have a happy or sad ending?

MAKE UP A LITTLE POEM USING THE FOLLOWING WORDS.....

log, singing, hundred years, enchanted, floating, stranded.

\*\* Make up your own myths and legends book and add your pictures, songs and poems.

## SCIENCE PUTAIAO

Name the trees in your school (if any).

Tree sounds - Ask children to select a tree. Listen to the sounds coming from the tree.

Describe the sounds. e.g. - leaves rustling.

Invent symbols to match sounds.

Draw a picture, a symbol tree.

## PHYS. ED TINANA KORI

Choose one of these games to work with groups - you will need string, cones, wood.



## SOCIAL STUDIES TIKANGA-A-IWI

- (1) Find a map of N.Z with the help of a teacher and look for Lake Waikaremoana.
  - (2) A visit to Lake Waikaremoana.
- Contact The Lake Waikaremoana Track Bookings for more information.

## VISUAL ARTS NGA MAHI TOI

ART- Draw a picture of a lake and insert the living things that live there e.g. - eels, trout

MUSIC/DANCE- In groups create a simple song- to a favourite tune using some of the words from the story, and then create a dance, making music with blocks of wood- try out different kinds of wood. Compose a "woody" tune on your wood blocks.

## TECHNOLOGY

Make a miniature log out of wood. Shape it, and then float it in a basin of water. What happened?



**TE REO**

**CLOSE READING QUESTION**

1. Who is the main character in the story?
2. What is the name of the lake that Tutana drifted over?
3. What was Tutana?
4. What was Tutana good at?

**TECHNOLOGY  
HANGARAU**

Be a reporter.

Visit a local Whirinaki Mill to see what happens to trees after they've been cut. This maybe a chance to ask questions about which forest they came from, how they were transported and what will become of these trees. You will need to make up a book with your questions ready to be asked.

**SCIENCE  
PUTAIAO**

- 1 ~ Identify all the native trees growing in your school grounds. Find out what the names are and make a list about it's characteristics e.g. - tall tree, small shaped leaves, smooth bark.
- 2 ~ Make leaf and bark rubbings from each tree.
- 3 ~ Make a collage picture using the leaves, bark and twigs of the tree.

**PHYS. ED  
KORI TINANA**

Select or follow the activities from the Mau Rakan Series.

**ART  
NGA TOI**

Practice sketching a tree that may have been used as Tutana. Transfer your drawing to lino. Cut the appropriate shape and then using ink, paints or other medium print your tree.

**SOCIAL STUDIES  
TIKANGA-A-IWI**

1. Find a map of N.Z and name 8 Maori lakes.
2. Which is the biggest lake in the North Island?
3. Name the biggest lake in the South Island.
4. Draw a map of the North and South Islands and then write the lakes on the maps.

**DRAMA** In groups of three, create one or two verses for a rap song using some words from the story. Make sure you introduce rhythm, sound and body movement. Act it out to the class.