



60 Springs

Education for
Environmental Sustainability



'To provide science learning that inspires students to understand environmental sustainability in their own communities using creative methods and innovative technologies'.

Puke Ariki



60 Springs Summary

60 Springs is run by Puke Ariki and funded by Shell and the Taranaki Regional Council (TRC).

60 Springs is a science based education programme for intermediate and high school students. It develops understanding of environmental issues by engaging students in scientific research then helping them to use creative new ways to present their findings.

60 Springs raises the aspirations of young people to care for the environment, improving their understanding of the factors affecting the health of their local area. The students are encouraged to consider the cultural, social, economic as well as environmental factors involved.

The projects include field trips to area(s) of study, work in the classroom and sessions at Puke Ariki.

The students publish their findings or ideas using a variety of media with an emphasis on digital technology. This allows them to consolidate their understanding of environmental sustainability while learning new and valuable skills.

Pilot School and Location

The project was piloted in 2008 with Devon Intermediate School in Pukekura Park, New Plymouth. Two classes, a year 7 and a year 8, have had field (day and night) trips into the park on a regular basis from July 2008. They have been studying freshwater fish, frogs, birds and insects/glow worms. Research has involved studying the habitats, recording sightings, species identification, audio recordings, photography and video footage.

Winning students!



The year 7 fish group has won the EMAP Conservation Week Competition 2008. The year 8 combined group (fish, frogs, insects and birds) received a highly commended in the Taranaki Regional Council Freshwater Movie Challenge for 2008.

60 Springs will be working with intermediate and high schools around the region in 2009. Units are area specific and tend to be around science, social sciences, geography and environment science topics, however this is not exclusive and cross disciplinary topics are encouraged. The creative and innovative outputs of this project lend themselves towards art, technology, electronics and english subjects.

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More photos of Devon Intermediate students in Pukekura Park, 2008.



