Māori Gods

Approach: One to one

Focus: Interpreting symbolic elements.

Resources: Prompt card, 3 pictures.

Questions/instructions:

Show prompt card.

This is Tangaroa, the Māori god of the sea. You can tell this is the god of the sea because he has a fish tail, hair like seaweed and is blue and green like the sea.



Show picture 1.1. What do you think he is the god of?

[Tawbiri-matea

- god of wind/storms/
weather/clouds/rain]

name and 'god of'
both correct

'god of' correct but

not name 42 58

% responses

y4 y8

2. How does the picture show that?

[judged in relation to student's answer to 1]

appropriately argued, using multiple features 46 66

appropriately argued, using one feature 43 30



3. What do you think he is the god of?

[Tumatauenga

- god of man/people **or**war/fighting]

name and 'god of'
both correct 0 0
'god of' corrrect

19 28

but not name

4. How does the picture show that?

[judged in relation to student's answer to 3]

appropriately argued, using multiple features 35 47

appropriately argued, using one feature 46 39

Level: Year 4 and year 8

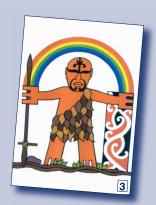
Māori Gods Prompt Card

This is a Māori god of the sea.

The picture shows he is the god of the sea because of:

the fish tail, the seaweed hair, and the blue and green colours like the sea.





% responses y4 y8

Show picture 3.

5. What do you think he is the god of?

[Rongomatane/Rongomaraero

– god of peace/bappiness or god of gardening/farming/agriculture, kumara/arts]

name and 'god of' both correct 0 0 'god of' correct but not name 3 14

6. How does the picture show that?

[judged in relation to student's answer to 5]

appropriately argued, using multiple features 34 54 appropriately argued,

using one feature 52 36

Total score: 8-12 5 13

6-7 24 40 4-5 36 27

2-3 28 17

0-1

Commentary:

Students at both year levels showed substantial ability to reason using visual cues but little prior knowledge of these images.