Trend Task: Giant Weta and Giant Dragonfly

NEMP Access Task

Year: 4 & 8

Approach: One to one

Focus: Obtaining and analysing visual information

Resources: 2 pictures, recording book

Questions / instructions:

Show student pictures of insects.

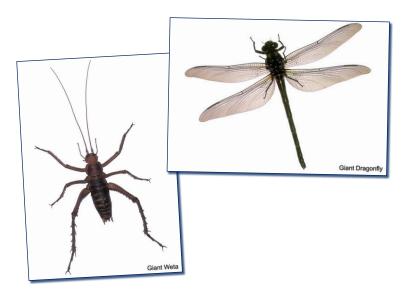
These pictures show two different insects: a Giant Weta and a Giant Dragonfly.

Have a very careful look at these two insects before I ask you to tell me what is different about them.

Allow a short time.

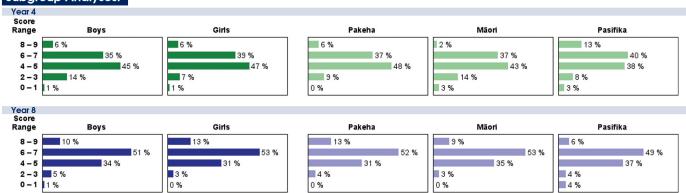
Now tell me all the things that you notice that are different about these two insects. As you tell me, I'll write them down.

Now I'll read back what I've written down, and if you want to tell me some more things that are different about the two insects, I'll add them to the list.



	% response 2006 ('02) year 4 year 8			% response 2006 ('02)	
				year 4	
wings for dragonfly, not for weta	94 (92)	96 (96)			
long tail for dragonfly, little bumps for weta	62 (50)	53 (47)			
long antennae for weta, not for dragonfly	78 (73)	81 (81)			
two additional antennae for weta	14 (19)	20 (19)			
eyes much larger for dragonfly	61 (58)	79 (71)	Total score: 8–9	6 (6)	11 (11
legs relatively longer for weta	51 (50)	62 (62)	6–7	37 (31)	52 (51
spikes on legs for weta, not dragonfly	61 (57)	72 (64)	4–5	46 (49)	32 (32
different body shape, structure	59 (66)	73 (75)	2–3	10 (13)	4 (6)
different colours	44 (39)	56 (63)	0–1	1 (1)	O (0)





Commentary:

In this task, students identified differences between these two insects. Year 8 students performed somewhat better than year 4 students; however, there was little difference from four years ago in the scores. There were no gender differences in either year 4 or year 8, nor were there any notable differences among Pakeha, Māori and Pasifika students for either year 4 or year 8.