



## A Place to Live

**Approach:** Station

**Level:** Year 4 and year 8

**Focus:** Natural features of a place that makes it suitable for a purpose.

**Resources:** Video of promontory (no sound) on laptop computer, postcard of same area.

### Questions/instructions:

This activity uses the computer.

When Māori lived in New Zealand a very long time ago, they looked for good places to build their homes. The video shows one of the places where early Māori people decided to live.

Click the **Play** button and watch the video that plays then look at the postcard.

Why was this chosen as a good place to live?

Try to write 5 different reasons.

Postcard



Video Still



Reasons mentioned:	% responses	
	y4	y8
easy to defend (isolated, cliff, one main access route, high up)	10	27
beautiful/scenic/peaceful/other aesthetic considerations	37	48
good for food (farming, horticulture, seafood, hunting)	38	53
good for building and living (cleared of bush, flat, sunny)	31	38
good for recreation (swimming, tramping, hunting)	29	29
plenty of space	43	48

Overall strength of list of reasons (appropriateness & range):	% responses	
	y4	y8
very strong	1	1
strong	5	15
moderate	36	46
weak	58	39

### Commentary:

A broad range of considerations were referred to by students at both year levels. The largest differences (“easy to defend” and “good for food”) probably reflected additional study of traditional Māori practices between year 4 and year 8.