

Approach: Independent
 Focus: Understanding place names
 Resources: Answer book

Year: 4 & 8

Questions / instructions:

Many place names have an interesting story behind them.

Here is the story about a place called Onetangi (One – Tangi).

Onetangi

One = sand Tangi = weeping

Once there was a place where the winds blew along the seashore. As the sand was lifted up by the wind, it sounded like someone crying. So the beach came to be known as One-tangi, the place of the crying sands.

Here is another name:

Kaiwakamoana

Kai = food Waka = canoe Moana = sea

Write a short story that tells how Kaiwakamoana might have got this name.

	% response 2005 ('01)		
	year 4	year 8	
Clearly includes:	all three elements	51 (60)	72 (80)
	two of three elements	8 (5)	13 (11)
	one of three elements	7 (9)	2 (1)
	none of three elements	34 (26)	13 (8)
Interest level (richness, creativity):	high/quite high	11 (21)	28 (32)
	moderate	27 (34)	37 (38)
	low/absent	62 (45)	35 (30)
Coherence of story: <i>(ideas linked, flows clearly)</i>	high/quite high	13 (29)	38 (44)
	moderate	26 (30)	31 (33)
	low/absent	61 (41)	31 (23)
Total score:	7	7 (19)	21 (22)
	5-6	21 (23)	37 (47)
	3-4	29 (27)	26 (17)
	1-2	13 (10)	4 (7)
	0	30 (21)	12 (7)

Commentary:

Just over half of the year 4 students and 72 percent of the year 8 students met the core requirement of including the three elements of the name in their story. Thirty percent more year 8 than year 4 students obtained a total score of five or higher. There was a small decline in performance, at both year levels, between 2001 and 2005.

YEAR 4 – HIGH EXEMPLARS

One day a fisherman went out to fish in his canoe. That morning ~~the~~ the fisherman went to sea. He sailed off. He caught a humongous fish and shared it with his village. So the beach became Kaiwakamoana.

Once there was a canoe. It was full of food. There was more food than people. One day the canoe got swept out to sea and was never seen since.

once There was a moana, which was very rough. one day 2 men came down to the moana with a waka to catch some kai. When he started rowing in the moana a wave came up and swept them into the surf & they were never seen again.

YEAR 8 – HIGH EXEMPLARS

Once there was a place where there wasn't much food so the people went out on canoes and caught fish and sea creatures from the sea. So this place is the place when they got the food from the canoe that went to the sea.

A tribe was carrying food across the sea in a canoe. There was a terrible storm the feisty waves shook the canoe turning it upside down. For weeks the tribe searched for the canoe and its survivors. They were never found.

once there was a boy who stole 2 sacks of kai and scattered away in his waka. But his waka was so heavy and it fell into the moana.