

Trend Task: Spot the Dot

Approach: Station
 Focus: Knowledge of New Zealand geography
 Resources: Computer program on laptop computer

Year: 4 & 8

Questions / instructions:

This activity uses the computer.

Click on the button that says **Spot the Dot**.



VOICE-OVER AND ONSCREEN INSTRUCTIONS:

You will see pictures of New Zealand places. For each picture, click the point on the map where you think the place is.

Towns and islands are marked with an orange circle.

Waterways, oceans and mountains are marked with a white square.

Click the mouse to begin.

(Each location then given by voice-over and onscreen, same as adjacent.)

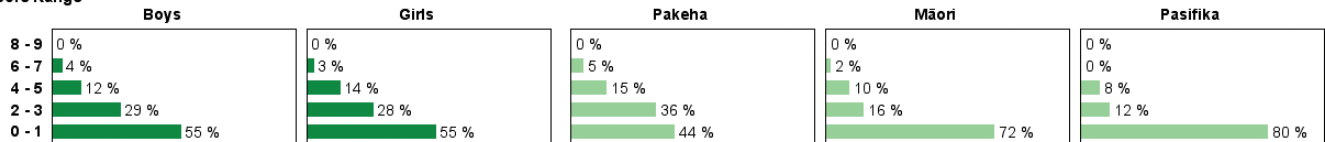
Correctly located:

	% response 2009 ('05)	
	year 4	year 8
Aoraki/ Mount Cook – New Zealand's highest mountain	27 (30)	46 (51)
Waikato River – New Zealand's longest river	17 (9)	47 (33)
Pacific Ocean – meets one side of New Zealand	23 (27)	46 (45)
Cook Strait – ferry boats travel across this	23 (36)	70 (84)
Lake Taupo – great for fishing and boating	23 (28)	57 (74)
Clutha River – has a large power station at Clyde	9 (11)	14 (22)
Stewart Island – a national park	38 (53)	76 (87)
Mount Taranaki – has also been called Mount Egmont	7 (11)	27 (30)
Waitangi – where an important treaty was signed	10 (9)	25 (27)
Total Score:		
8-9	0 (0)	5 (6)
6-7	4 (5)	23 (25)
4-5	13 (18)	33 (42)
2-3	29 (33)	22 (19)
0-1	55 (44)	17 (8)

Subgroup Analyses:

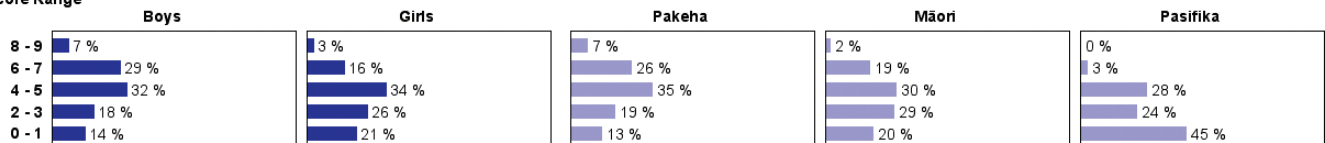
Year 4

Score Range



Year 8

Score Range



Commentary:

On average, about 20% more year 8 than year 4 students were able to locate specific places on a New Zealand map. The places located most frequently were Stewart Island, Cook Strait, Lake Taupo, Aoraki/Mt Cook and the Pacific Ocean. At year 8, boys performed significantly better than girls. Year 4 Māori and Pasifika students and year 8 Pasifika students scored much lower than their Pakeha counterparts.