

The Map

Approach: Station

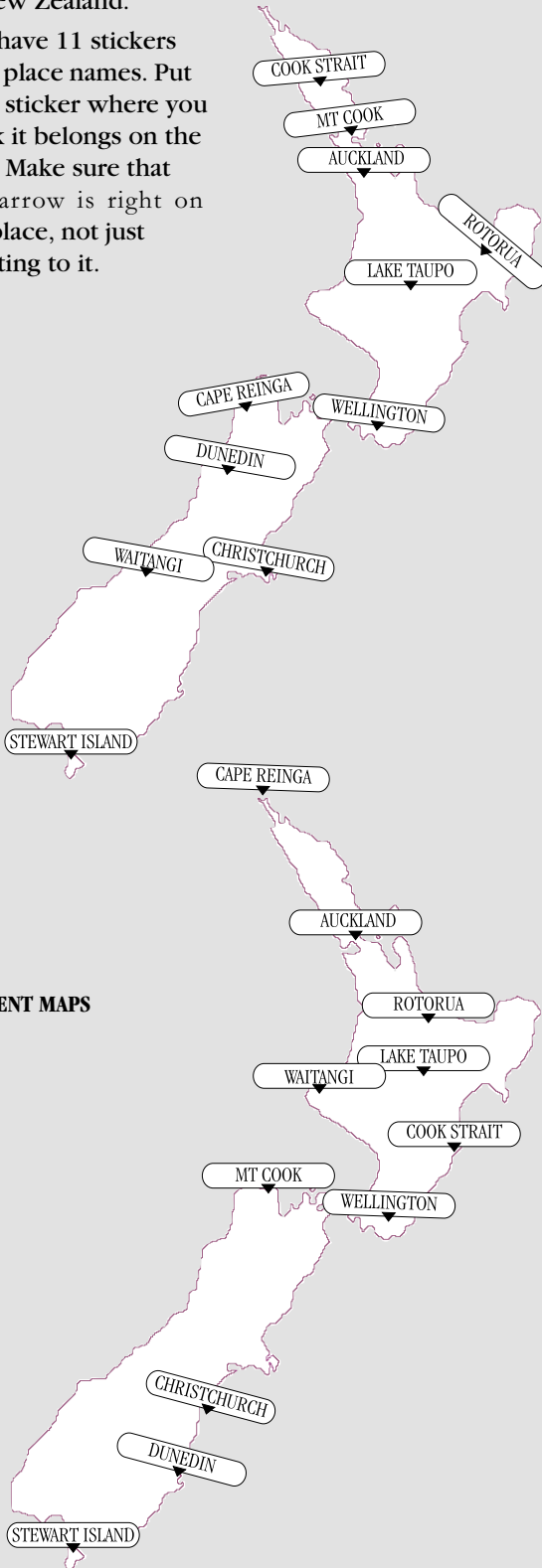
Level: Year 4 and year 8

Resources: 11 postcards of New Zealand places; 11 stickers with place names and arrows.

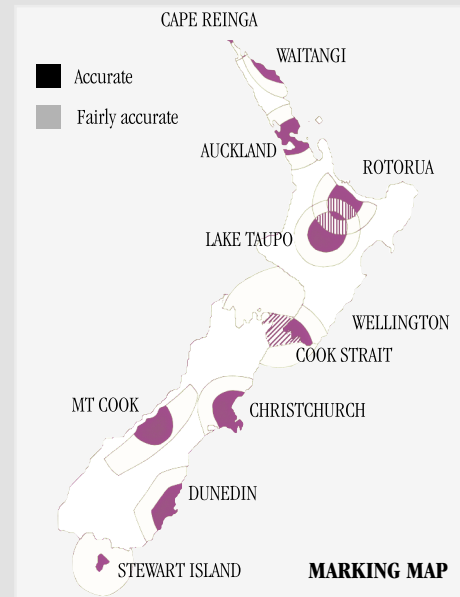
Questions/instructions

Look at the 11 postcards from different places in New Zealand. Think about where these places are in New Zealand.

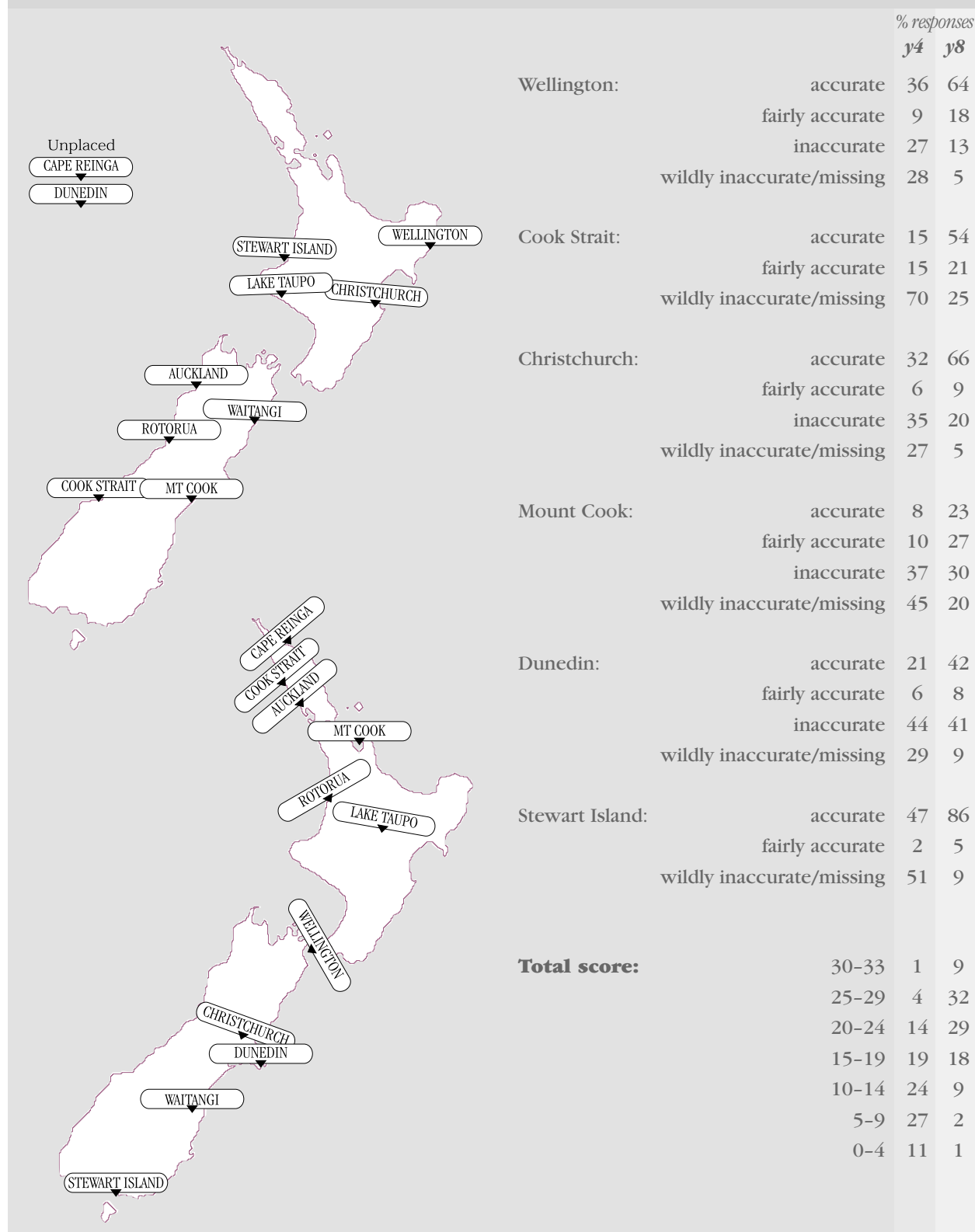
You have 11 stickers with place names. Put each sticker where you think it belongs on the map. Make sure that the arrow is right on the place, not just pointing to it.



STUDENT MAPS



		% responses	
		y4	y8
Cape Reinga:	accurate	10	40
	fairly accurate	3	10
	inaccurate	37	24
	wildly inaccurate/missing	50	26
Waitangi:	accurate	5	7
	fairly accurate	8	17
	inaccurate	49	55
	wildly inaccurate/missing	38	21
Auckland:	accurate	30	67
	fairly accurate	13	14
	inaccurate	40	17
	wildly inaccurate/missing	17	2
Rotorua:	accurate	12	25
	fairly accurate	16	28
	inaccurate	49	42
	wildly inaccurate/missing	23	5
Taupo:	accurate	25	71
	fairly accurate	9	14
	inaccurate	32	10
	wildly inaccurate/missing	34	5



Commentary

This task identified students' knowledge of the map location of eleven prominent places throughout New Zealand. For marking purposes, accurate = actual to very close proximity; fairly accurate = in the general proximity; inaccurate = in correct island but seriously misplaced; wildly inaccurate = wrong island, Cook Strait on land, etc. The category 'inaccurate' was not used for Cook Strait or Stewart island because the boundary between the two was difficult to define. Averaged across the 11 places, 30 percent of year 4 students identified locations accurately or fairly accurately; 37 percent were wildly inaccurate or gave no response. For year 8, the corresponding figures were 65 percent and 12 percent, indicating substantial improvement of knowledge from year 4 to year 8.