

TREND TASK

Bird Mat

Approach: Station

Level: Year 4 and year 8

Focus: Finding information in a book.

Resources: Book: *Common Birds of New Zealand*, answer sheet.

	% responses	
	2001 ('97)	2001 ('97)
	year 4	year 8
Bellbird: number of eggs 3-4	74 (64)	94 (92)
colour of eggs pinkish with brown spots	57 (41)	80 (73)
White heron: number of eggs 2-5	69 (70)	90 (90)
colour of eggs pale blue	58 (50)	87 (90)
NZ Dotterel: number of eggs 2 or 3	74 (69)	93 (91)
colour of eggs buff with dark brown blotches	50 (35)	79 (73)
Total score:	6 33 (24)	67 (59)
	5 17 (12)	13 (17)
	4 14 (15)	10 (14)
	2-3 15 (23)	5 (5)
	0-1 21 (26)	5 (5)

Questions/instructions

Imagine that you are making a new mat for putting on trays in a fast food restaurant. The mats are about the eggs of 3 New Zealand birds.

The mats need to say:

- how many eggs are laid and
- the colour of the eggs.

Use the book *Common Birds in New Zealand* to find this information.

Write the information on the placemat.

Commentary

About 30 percent more year 8 than year 4 students got all 6 pieces of information correct. The 2001 students did a little better than the 1997 students, particularly at year 4 level.