

Charting the Journey

Approach: Station

Level: Year 4 and year 8

Resources: Instruction sheet; red and blue pens.

Questions/instructions	% responses	
	year 4	year 8
Over 1000 years ago there were probably no people living in New Zealand.		
Perhaps 1000 years ago the first Māori people came to New Zealand.		
Over 150 years ago the first white people came to live in New Zealand.		
1. USE THE BLUE PEN to mark a cross (X) or crosses (XXX) on the map to show where the first Māori boats would have come from — then draw a line to show the direction of their sea voyage to New Zealand. USE THE BLUE PEN.		
Where Māori came from:		
Pacific Ocean, north and east of NZ (to Hawaii)	17	35
anywhere else in Pacific Ocean north of Australia and NZ	14	24
other/no response	69	41
2. USE THE RED PEN to mark a triangle (△) or triangles (△△△) on the map to show where the very first white settlers' ships would have started their journey — then draw a line to show the direction of the sea voyage to New Zealand. USE THE RED PEN.		
Where white people came from:		
Britain or immediate surroundings	8	42
other parts of Western Europe and Northern Africa	3	6
Australia	19	16
other/no response	70	36
Route from Europe:		
round South Africa	8	35
round Cape Horn	1	5
through later canals	0	2
through Arctic Ocean	2	2
across land	5	4
Europe not marked	84	52

Commentary

This task reveals that large numbers of students at both year 4 and year 8 have vague ideas or generally inaccurate knowledge of the places where the very first Māori and White settlers came from, and the likely path of their respective journeys to New Zealand. Overall, however, there is considerable improvement in knowledge from year 4 to year 8.

