

# 30 Days of Connection

Connecting students with their local environment.

1

**Count how many lights are on in your home in the evening.** Identify 1 or more lights that could be turned off some/most evenings without leaving you in the dark.



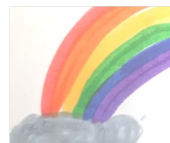
2

**Explore the aitanga pepeke (the insect world).** In your garden or neighbourhood, get up close to a piece of grass or a planted area. Lift up leaves and sticks. How many different bugs can you see? What are they doing? Take a photo, draw the bugs, or write a story about them.



3

**Lie on the ground on your tummy.** Stay still, stay calm, what can you observe? Turn over and lie on your back. Close your eyes, put your hands on your tummy and breath deeply in and out. Open your eyes and watch your hand move up and down. Look up, what can you see?



4

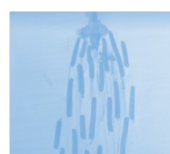
**Make a rainstorm.** Go outside under Rangi-nui (the sky father) to make your rainstorm using hand actions. Rub hands together; Snap finger; Clap hands together; Slap hands on legs; Stomp feet; Slap hands on legs and stomp feet. Stomp feet; Slap hands on leg; Clap hands together; Snap finger; Rub hands. Stop.

From EnviroSchools Water of Life resource book, pg. 30.



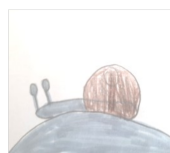
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**Take the four minute shower challenge.** Help reduce Auckland's water usage.



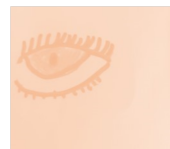
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**Make a mini-habitat.** Find an icecream container or box, put some soil, leaves or bark in the bottom, add moss, lichen, sticks, leaves. Add lego minifigures, toy animals, or dinosaurs. Could this be a home for a snail? Be a kaitiaki (guardian) – feed, water and provide shelter for your snails.



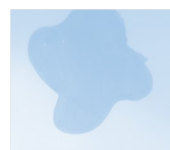
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**Close your eyes for 2 mins and count sounds.** Use fingers on your left hand to count natural sounds, and man made on your right. Which do you hear more of? Which would you prefer to hear more/less of?



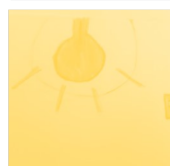
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**On your walk around your neighbourhood, hunt for all signs of wai (water).** Where are the puddles? Can you see or hear an awa (stream), an estuary, or moana (ocean)? How many tomonga wai (drains) can you find on your road? Can you draw a map of all the wai you found?



9

**Make a snack or meal that generates 2 or less pieces of rubbish.**



10

**Go outside and find as many different colours and textures as you can from nature.** Make a picture with them by sticking them to paper, or make it on the ground and take a photo. Wash your hands well when you are finished.



11

**Spy manmade and natural things for each letter of the alphabet.** If you have chalk write them on concrete, if not record on paper. Try this inside and outside.



12

**Make your own stream outside, using chalk on the footpath or some blue material on the grass.** Use sticks or branches as trees shading your stream, add pebbles and leaves for underwater plants. Now add pictures, flowers or leaves to represent the tuna (eels), kokopu (native fish) and koura (crayfish) that live in the streams.



13

**Count the vehicles parked and driving outside your home for five minutes.** How does this compare to before the lockdown and/or a scene from your favorite TV show?



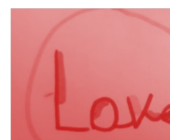
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**Make a 3D native NZ creature.** You could use Lego, cardboard and paper, recycled materials, blocks, anything! Place your creature in the environment.



15

**Paint a kind word or message on a stone.** Leave your stone by your mail box for others to read.





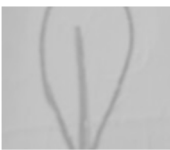
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**Locate a patch of wild/unkempt green space near your home.** Do a sketch of the plants and bugs you can see.



17

**In your garden or in the local park or neighbourhood, find as many different seeds and seed pods as you can.** Glue them to paper, photograph them, or create a detailed drawing.



18

**How many different colours can you see outside your house?** How many can you say in Te Reo?



19

**Lie down quietly so that you can see Rangi-nui(the sky).** Watch the kapua (clouds) as they move across the sky and change shape. Can you tell what direction the wind is blowing the kapua? What colour are the kapua? What do grey kapua mean? Use your imagination to find shapes in the kapua.



20

**Recycle your paper.** Wet it, break it into little pieces and bury in soil or a mulched area under trees.



21

**Meet your local manu (birds).** Sit still and quiet for 5 minutes in your garden or somewhere near some trees or bushes. How many manu can you see or hear? What are they doing? Are they native? Photograph or draw the birds you see.



22

**Find a flower, smell and observe it closely.** How many petals does it have and how are they arranged? Take a photo or draw it.



23

**Hunt around your house and neighbourhood and see how many different ngā momo wai (types of water) you can find.** Wai-ora is pure water, wai-māori is water used for drinking, wai-kino is polluted or dangerous water, and wai-tai is salt water.



24

**Create your own activity.** Write the instructions below:



25

**Meet your local rākau (trees).** Look in your garden or neighborhood for different trees. Photograph or draw as many different sizes and shapes of tree as you can. Do you know the names of any of the rākau? Which ones are native to NZ?



26

**Catch a falling leaf.** Make it into a leaf rubbing card to give to someone in your bubble you are grateful to.



27

**Create your own hukapapa (ice).** Hukapapa is frozen wai that creates awa (rivers) when it melts. Fill a container with water then add leaves, flowers and petals so that they float. Place your container in the freezer and lay it flat so that the water stays level. Leave for several hours or overnight. Remove your hukapapa from the container and it hang outside to watch it slowly melt.



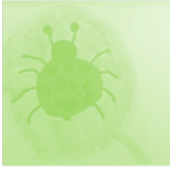
28

**Find a place where people, plants and/or animals are in the same place and look happy together.**



29

**Sit in the garden or go for a walk.** Breathe deeply and take notice all the different living things you can see. Count how many. Papatūānuku is full of life and we are part of it!



30

**Create a challenge for someone in your whanau to help them connect to the local environment .**

