

# School Options

Willowbank has a variety of options for local schools whether you visit us to complement your current class studies or as a fun day out!

Keeper Talk

Customised lesson

Travelling tuatara visit to your school

Ko Tane Maori Cultural Experience

Fun day out for a treat



# Willowbank

your kiwi guarantee

## FIVE Options for your School

<p><b>1. Keeper Talk</b></p>	<p>One of our experienced and knowledgeable keepers will spend around 20 minutes talking to your group about a topic of your choice.</p> <p>Where possible and appropriate, they will bring props or animals to show you.</p>
<p><b>2. Customised lesson</b></p>	<p>After consultation with you, we will plan and prepare a lesson that fits into your teaching topic.</p> <p>This lesson will take 30 - 45 minutes depending on the age of the children, and will involve hands on activities.</p>
<p><b>3. Travelling tuatara visit to your school</b></p>	<p>A New Zealand Conservation Trust Education Officer can visit your classroom with a live tuatara - NZ's 'living dinosaur'.</p> <p>During the visit your students will learn about conservation issues. This is a great resource to utilise prior to your visit to Willowbank.</p>
<p><b>4. Ko Tane Maori Cultural Experience</b></p>	<p>Located within Willowbank, Ko Tane offers a two hour interactive cultural learning experience.</p> <p>Our experienced staff will teach your students elements of Maori culture myths and legends and kapahaka. Includes participating in haka, poi and ti rakau in a relaxed environment.</p>
<p><b>5. Fun day out for a treat</b></p>	<p>If you are just offering your students a treat, then we will give you a free bag of food for the birds or animals!</p>

## Why Willowbank?

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- Known for being able to get up close and personal with the animals and birds.
- Able to interact with the animals and birds by feeding them.
- Willowbank houses one of the best displays of NZ species in New Zealand.
- Close to Christchurch for better transport costs.
- Teachers have the ability to visit Willowbank at no cost once a booking is made to plan their excursion.
- Schools have the option to have a Keeper talk or teacher lesson. Or, just reserve entry with a bag of food for the animals.
- Willowbank has a one way walking path, for ease of getting around.
- Willowbank is made up of three area – Zoo area, Farmyard area and Native area.
- Plenty of shade and shelter from the weather within a bush like setting.
- Schools get free use of the barn facility to store bags and have lunch.
- Willowbank is a part of the ONE kiwi breeding programme, and when eggs and chicks are onsite, we have a tour facility to see this process.
- Free Willowbank unit plans on set topics.
- Willowbank is able to adapt our lessons and keeper talks to meet the requirements of the schools.
- Willowbank hosts an onsite Wildlife Hospital that is a non-profit organisation. It welcomes any sick or injured wildlife that is brought in by the public. It runs with a host of volunteers, including vets and vet nurses. This facility can be added into any educational visit.
- Willowbank has an off display predator free area that small groups of secondary students could study.
- We hold a variety of resources on our website, mainly for primary aged students, such as scavenger hunts.
- RAMs forms are available for schools planning.
- Willowbank runs an up-to-date and functional Health and Safety programme for its facilities and the activities held onsite.
- At all times there is a qualified First Aider onsite to help with any incidents.

## **Prices:**

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### **Primary Year 0 – 8**

\$7.50 per student

1:5 adults are free-of-charge as supervisors

Any additional adults are \$14.75

### **Secondary Year 9 – 13**

\$9.50 per student

Teachers are free-of-charge as supervisors

Any additional adults are \$14.75

These prices include a choice of either:

- 1) Keeper Talk tailored to your topic
  - approx. 20 mins and requires a minimum of 10 students, or
- 2) A lesson or organised activities planned around the topic of your choice
  - approx. 30 – 45 mins and requires a minimum of 15 students, or
- 3) A free bag of animal food – for a fun day out!

### **Travelling Tuatara**

\$3 per student

Schools outside 20km radius of Willowbank may incur travelling costs.

### **Ko Tane Maori Cultural Performance**

\$15 per student, which includes free entry to Willowbank.

Minimum of 50 students

### **TO BOOK:**

Contact Jane by email – [info@willowbank.co.nz](mailto:info@willowbank.co.nz)

Or phone her on 03 359 6226.

## Willowbank Unit Plans

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### **Animals and their Babies**

This unit has a broad range of ideas, from basic identification of animals and offspring, to inherited traits and life cycles.

#### **Suggested Age**

Level One - Year 1 and 2

#### **Science - Living World - Evolution**

The students will recognise that there are lots of different living things in the world and they can be grouped in different ways.

#### **Key Messages**

1. Offspring don't always look like their parents.
2. Animals and birds are born in different ways – mammals, eggs,
3. Animals and birds keep their babies safe in different ways.

### **From Farm to Fork**

This unit looks at the processes that food goes through in order to get from the farm to when it is able to be eaten.

#### **Suggested Age**

Level Two - Year 3 and 4

#### **Science - Living World – Life Processes**

The students will recognise that all living things have certain requirements so that they can stay alive.

#### **Key Messages**

1. All food comes from plants or animals.
2. Food has to be farmed, caught or grown at home.
3. Food is changed from farm to fork.

## **Animal Poop**

This unit would fit a study around sustainable environments. It could easily be modified to focus on animal adaptations

### **Suggested Age**

Level Three - Year 5 and 6

### **Science - Living World – Life Processes**

The students will recognise that there are life processes common to all living things and that these occur in different ways.

### **Key Messages**

1. All living things produce waste - everyone poops!
2. Waste is an important part of the food chain – decomposers.
3. Scientists are developing ways to manage animal waste to create sustainable systems.

## **Conserving Native Birds**

This unit explores why certain birds in New Zealand have a threatened status or have become extinct. It also investigates various conservation methods to protect New Zealand native birds and the merits of these.

### **Suggested Age**

Level Four or Five – Year 7, 8, 9, 10

### **Science - Living World - Ecology**

The students will explain how living things are suited to their particular habitat and how they respond to environmental changes, both natural and human-induced.

### **Key Messages**

1. Many native birds are vulnerable due to habitat loss and predation, as well as their body size and loss of flight.
2. New Zealand birds have an important role in native bush ecosystems.
3. Operation Nest Egg is a successful Conservation method to protect species.

## **Animals Adaptations and Classification**

This unit looks at the special features animals have that enable them to live in a particular habitat. And how and why animals are organised into groups.

### **Suggested Age**

Level Four or Five – Year 7, 8, 9, 10

### **Science - Living World – Evolution (Level 4) and Ecology (Level 5)**

The students will begin to group plants, animals and other living things into science-based classifications.

The Students will investigate the interdependence of living things (including humans) in an ecosystem.

### **Key Messages**

1. Animals and birds are suited to particular habitats and have adapted as such.
2. Adaptation is an evolutionary process.
3. Human activities can change habitats and affect animal's ability to survive.
4. Studying observable features is a scientific method for grouping and naming organisms and classification.

## Other Ideas for Units:

### PRIMARY

- Animal and Bird Enrichment
- Sustainability and the Environment
- Caring for animals
- Endangered Species
- Adaptations to Habitat
- Role of the modern 'zoo'
- Life Cycles
- Pest Control
- Habitats
- Farming
- Native plants
- Investigating animal parts – feet, beaks
- feathers

### SECONDARY

- Speciation in terms of kaka and kea (comparisons and how they evolved)
- Behaviour of kiwi vs other birds - nocturnal vs diurnal
- Adaptation of various birds to different NZ environments
- Adaptations of possum - leading to its success in NZ environment and effect on natives
- Conservation efforts in terms of kiwi and tuatara
- Difference in conservation of kiwi and kea - why do some natives have better protection
- Investigations – Willowbank has a predator free area which contains different microhabitats in which numerous investigations could be carried out.  
e.g. invertebrate studies , native vs invasive (small groups only)
- Selective breeding - using the farmyard animals as examples of how humans have selectively bred animals
- Animal Behaviours – kea, primates, otters
- EcoSystems
- Investigations – sampling, measuring, data gathering
- Waterways – Styx Living Laboratory