

ROCKY SHORE



Please note that where fishing is mentioned we mean counting/ observing for science, or just trying to find fish for fun and sometimes catching them to eat.

ROCKY SHORE

Playing in rock pools at places like Mataikona or Riversdale can be both educational and fun at the same. Can you find the following?



Cats Eye (*pupu*)



Bulldog (*rori*)



Chiton (*papatua*)



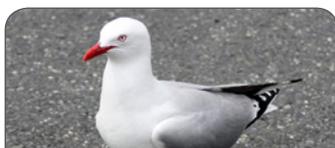
Cockle (*tuangi*)



Crayfish (*koura*)



Green lipped mussel (*kuku*)



Gulls (*Tarapunga*)



Kina



Large rock crab (*Pāpaka*)



Limpet (*ngākihi*)



Long Finger Sponge



Octopus (*wheke*)



Pacific Oysters (*tio*)



Paua



Pipi



Red Sea Anenome (*kōtore moana*)



Sea Cucumber (*rori*)



Sea Tulip (*Kāeo*)



Seal (*kekeno*)



Small Rock Crab (*rērere*)



Sun Starfish (*Pātangatanga*)



Wandering Sea Anenome (*humenga*)



Bull Kelp (*rimurapa*)



Karengo



Seaweed (*rimurimu*)

What else can you find?

THE RULES OF THE SEA **NGĀ TURE O TE MOANA**

Rules are put in place to make sure that respect is given to the atua when you are at the beach.

The following rules have been passed on from generation to generation. As can be seen the essential reason for the rules is to keep people in the sea safe from harm and to care for the environment.

DID YOU KNOW MOST SEAWEED, KELP AND FISH CAN BE EATEN?

KARAKIA

Say a karakia when planning a trip, to stay safe while at the beach and to give thanks at the end of the activity or day.

Just to recap karakia can be a checklist to make sure that everything has been done to look after the environments we go into and to make sure we stay safe. This might mean checking the tides, weather conditions, equipment, food, water, the car, that someone knows what you are doing and where you are going.

DON'T TURN YOUR BACK ON THE SEA

How can you see what is happening behind you if you are looking toward land. If a wave hits you in the back your body will be pushed down, possibly onto rocks. Facing the sea you can see what is coming and be prepared.

We are taught to face people, to look them in the eye and not to turn our backs to them, as this would be impolite. The same courtesies are given to Tangaroa.



TURN ROCKS BACK OVER IF YOU HAVE LOOKED UNDER THEM

Rocks are the homes of many sea creatures; if you disturb them they may go away, so that next time you go to that spot there will be nothing there.

Leaving rocks overturned will also leave anything on the rock exposed to the sun, wind or predators endangering their well-being.

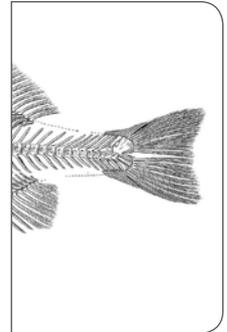
Think about when someone comes to your house. Do you appreciate it if they leave a mess or destroy something of yours?



IF FISHING TAKE WHOLE FISH

For example if you break a feeler on a Crayfish find it and put it in the bag with the rest of the Crayfish. Paua are haemophiliacs or if you cut one it will bleed to death so better to take it.

A limb or any part of a fish left in the water might attract unwanted fish.



DO NOT LEAVE RUBBISH ON THE BEACH OR IN THE SEA

Tangaroa is not a rubbish bin. To leave rubbish is to disrespect Papatūānuku and Tangaroa.

Rubbish is not only unsightly but also a danger to the sea, fish and often humans as well. Glass, plastic, and metals cut, pollute and maim.

It is better to leave something in a better condition than when you found it.



PUT THE FIRST FISH YOU CATCH BACK

Thank Tangaroa for allowing you to take his children in order to sustain you and your family. We return the first fish as a mark of respect and thanks.

BE CAREFUL

Sometimes we go to the beach to just have fun but other times we are there to do work.

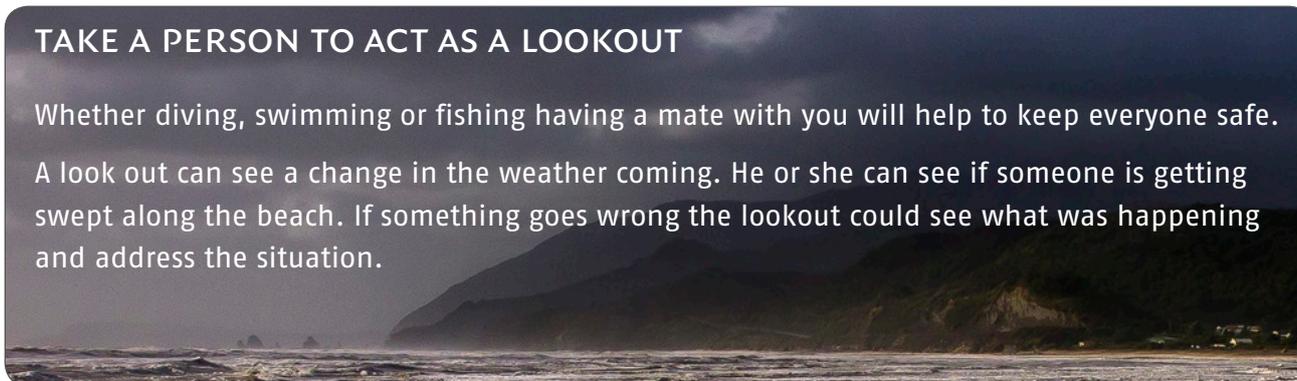
Fishing or even rocky shore exploration needs concentration on the task and respect for the sea.

In the past anyone present when a group was diving had to be quiet, even children. Some had to sit quietly in a marked area until the dive was finished. They weren't allowed to throw rocks at the sea or draw lines in the sand with sticks. No one was allowed to swear or curse.



TAKE A PERSON TO ACT AS A LOOKOUT

Whether diving, swimming or fishing having a mate with you will help to keep everyone safe. A look out can see a change in the weather coming. He or she can see if someone is getting swept along the beach. If something goes wrong the lookout could see what was happening and address the situation.



WOMEN SHOULD NOT GET IN WATER DURING THEIR PERIOD

Although not likely, blood could attract unwanted fish such as sharks or eels. On the surface this seems a pretty straight forward safety measure.

The deeper thinking behind this rule is that the whare tangata (womb) inside every women is so precious that we don't want to risk any injuries to either. A women is always special but when she has her period it signals the potential for her families whakapapa to continue. For this reason extra care is taken to make sure she is looked after during that time.

RESPECT TAPU SITES

There are usually very good reasons why a place is called tapu.

There are spiritual aspects to this in that an important or tragic event may have occurred at a place that is described as tapu. A rock could represent an important ancestor or a group of petrified trees could be seen as a massacred people.

Another reason places are called tapu are for safety reasons. A part of the sea that a taniwha lives in may be where a rip will carry people out into the ocean. People might be warned away from a certain part of the beach where there is quicksand. A rock near a river mouth could be where the water is strongest when tides are changing so you wouldn't want to get swept under the rock.

DO NOT CONSUME ALCOHOL IN WATER OR ENTER THE WATER AFTER DRINKING

Drinking will impair judgment, cause irrational decisions and heightens the chance of accidents.





DO NOT GO TO THE TOILET IN THE WATER

Bodily fluids like poos and wees are pollutants. Going to the toilet in the water is no good for it. Even on land but near the sea you should not face your bottom to the sea if going poos, or face the sea if going wees.

IF YOU GO TO ONE PLACE TODAY GO TO ANOTHER NEXT TIME

This does not necessarily mean a completely different place. It may mean a different part of the same Bay. By applying this practice you are not taking from, turning over rocks or walking over the same place. Thereby not disturbing the place to much. Today this is more difficult because lots of people visit popular spots. At least you are doing your bit to conserve the place.

KNOW THE PLACES YOU ARE GOING

The first aspect of this rule is that you need to be aware of the conditions or dangers present in an area. By having local knowledge you minimize any risks to your well-being and for instance if you were fishing will not take to much if you get excited about finding a plentiful place.

SHOW RESPECT FOR LAND OWNERS AND LOCAL PEOPLE

It is a courtesy to call in to tell locals what you intend to do. If away from your home region it is often sensible to ask permission to fish. Locals can pass on useful information in this way.

ONLY TAKE WHAT YOU NEED

Whether fishing, fossicking or studying only take what you need. Sometimes you don't need to take anything. You can take a photograph or draw a picture.

If you take too much today there will be nothing left for tomorrow.

When fishing, the old people took certain species at special times of the year. The one time or period they went out, enough was gathered to last their time at the beach. The place would then be left until the following year or longer.

Monitoring of swamps, rivers and the coast was constantly undertaken to work out the health of that area. Other signs such as weather patterns and the activity of plants and trees were noted to predict how the fish would be affected in the coming season. From this measures could be taken to manage how much food could be taken from a specific area.

To take more than you needed was to be greedy and you would be punished in one way or another.



USE COMMON SENSE WHEN JUDGING WHAT SIZE FISH TO TAKE

PLEASE ADHERE TO THE CURRENT LAW SUCH AS TAKING LEGAL SIZE AND QUANTITIES OF FISH but here is something to think about.

If you take too many small ones they will not grow to become the breeders. The end result is that there will be no more fish in the future.

If you take too many big ones there will be no breeders to create babies. Eventually all the big ones stop breeding and there is nothing left to continue the cycle.

If we as humans do not have children there will be no adults. Once we as adults stop breeding there will be no one to take our place. Without babies there are no adults in the future.



 A photograph showing a dark, jagged silhouette of a cave or rock formation. Through the opening, a bright blue sea and a clear sky are visible, creating a strong contrast between the dark interior and the bright exterior.

TAKE CARE DURING TIDE CHANGES

The pull of water is strongest during the change of the tide. Weak swimmers and children especially, are best kept away from water during inter tide lest they are carried out to sea or smashed onto rocks.

WHEN GATHERING BAIT FOR FISHING CARE FOR THE SOURCE OF THE BAIT

If you are digging for worms turn the soil back over so that you do not leave an open wound on Papatūānuku.

PUT BACK FEMALE CRAYFISH WITH EGGS

To take females with eggs is the same as killing a human mother with a baby in her womb. You will restrict the future by killing babies before they get a chance to live and grow.

