

Māhuri



The Best Place to Rest

Ready to Read Phonics Plus



By **Samantha Montgomerie** | Illustrated by **Giselle Clarkson**

The Best Place to Rest

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The sun is hot.

“It is time to make the
best nest for my eggs,”
says Tūi.

Tūi looks at Frog's eggs.
“My eggs keep wet in
the stream,” says Frog.
Frog's home is too wet
for Tūi.





Tūī sees Ruru.

“I laid my eggs in
this tree,” says Ruru.

Ruru’s nest is too
dark for Tūī.

Tūi sees Weka.

“I am getting a soft leaf
for my nest,” says Weka.





Weka pokes the leaf in.
“I keep my nest tucked
in this spot,” says Weka.
Weka’s nest is too soft
for Tūī.

Tūī starts to grab
sticks and twigs.
She takes them
up into the tree.





Tūī puts fine moss
into the nest.
“You looked at a lot
of homes,” says Pāpā,
“but this is your best
place to rest.”

TEACHING NOTES

The Best Place to Rest

■ Reading practice

This story provides children with practice in reading and understanding short words using carefully selected focus sounds.

Focus sounds

Revision

Introduce the text and read the story aloud together, pointing to each word as you read. Encourage children to sound out the regular words that they already know the sounds for. The regular words that contain the focus sounds for this book are listed below. For words that include sounds that the children haven't learnt yet, you may simply tell children the words as you read together. Give plenty of praise for children's reading attempts and encourage re-reading to build accuracy and fluency.

Regular words for sounding out

getting, tucked, laid, stream, leaf, start, dark

Other words to tell children

Pāpā

■ Phonological awareness

Practise segmenting and blending sounds together to make words. You could say, "Let's say the sounds (phonemes) together in each word I say."

Have children find each word you segment and blend on the page.

Use the table below for suggestions on how to segment and blend target words from this story.

dark	d-ar-k
egg	e-gg
nest	n-e-s-t
twig	t-w-i-g
make	m-ae-k

■ Morphological awareness

Show how the word **tuck** can change with the addition of a suffix:

tuck, tucks, tuck**ing**, tucked

Bring attention to the part of the word that is the same. Create spoken sentences using the different forms of the word **tuck**.

■ Vocabulary

Talk about the meaning of the word **fine** as used in the story (i.e. very thin or narrow). See if children can come up with other meanings of the word **fine**.

■ Spelling

Support children to listen and identify where the sound change occurs in words. Use the suggested letters or letter blocks to spell and read the words. Prompt as necessary to ensure success.



Use the phrasing: "If this word spells **best**, can you spell **nest**? If this word spells **nest**, can you spell **net**?"

Easier changes:

best > nest > net > get > let

Harder changes:

rest > rust > rut > root

■ Story discussion

It was great that Tūi found the best place for her eggs. This best place was her kāinga, her home. Talk with children about whether they have a favourite place. What makes it so special for them?

■ Story retell

Ask the children to retell the story to a friend or family member. Prompt as necessary using picture cues. Give plenty of praise and encouragement for verbal responses.



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA



Rākau
Tree



Tupu
Seedling



Kākano
Seed

Māhuri Sapling

Tense morphemes
Vowel digraphs

Focus sounds

Revision



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