

# Special Places

by children from Kāingaroa School, Rēkohu

Kāingaroa is a tiny fishing village on the north-east coast of Rēkohu. Most of the children at Kāingaroa School have karapuna who are Moriori. Here, some of them write about their favourite places on the island.

*PJ*      *Jesse*      *Brooke*      *Reed*  
*Monique*      *Jacob*      *Serena*      *Nicole*



## Nicole

The Moriori carvings are in the kopi grove. When you come in at the start, the clouds cover the signposts with shadows, and it feels scary. The carvings are dug into the bark of the trees. They were made when none of us were born. When it is really windy, the leaves come floating down, but it's warm and calm and peaceful in the trees.

## Jacob

My special place is the Moriori carvings. When I'm there I feel calm, and when a light breeze blows, it sounds like the trees and the carvings are talking to me. I like walking through that piece of native bush especially when it's raining because the pitter patter of rain on the dead leaves that litter the forest floor sounds peaceful.



## Monique

When we go to Matarākau, the first thing I see is the old trees. They are bent because the wind has been blowing them for a long time. When it's windy, my little brother Chandler always gets blown over because he's little and not that steady. The wind blows my hair around. It sounds like a big whistle.





## Reed

At Okawa there are big, soft sandhills, and I slide down them. When I am there, I can hear the waves crashing together. Then I can see the oystercatchers standing in the waves. It is beautiful. It is my special place.

## Serena

When we go to the Back Beach, we find crystals. We slide down the sandhills, and sometimes we go for swims. I like playing in the water when we go out on the boat with my dad. Sometimes we catch sharks, but they don't come up close when we're swimming.

## Jesse

My house is right next to the sea at Kāingaroa. When I wake up, I can see the ocean. When it's stormy, the sea is rough. The fishing boats look like they'll nearly tip over. On sunny days, the water is calm and beautiful because it's clear. Sometimes you can see the fish off the wharf and off the rocks.

**The Chatham Islands is a great place to live.**



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First published 2010 by the Ministry of Education,  
PO Box 1666, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.  
[www.education.govt.nz](http://www.education.govt.nz)

This edition published 2022.

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Enquiries should be made to the publisher.

ISBN: 978 1 77690 698 7 (online)

ISSN: 2624 3636 (online)

Publishing services: Lift Education E Tū

Series Editor: Patricia Glesnor

Designer: Meredith Biberstein



## SCHOOL JOURNAL PART 2 NUMBER 2 2010

**Curriculum learning area**

Social Sciences: ANZH

**Reading year level**

Year 4

**Keywords**

beach, belonging, carving, Chatham Islands, environment, favourite places, fishing, forest, heritage, home, identity, Kāingaroa School, karapuna, Moriāri, places, Rēkohu