

MEKA MANU

Tōrea

(Pied oystercatcher)

Haematopus finschi



Sparklers

Characteristics

Tōrea are stocky birds with bright-coloured bills.

They can be found 'fishing' for their kai around coastal areas — that's where they get their English name, oystercatchers.

There are different kinds of oystercatchers, but some can live for a long time! South Island pied oystercatchers can live up to 27 years.

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Known for their good timing, tōrea go out fishing when the tide is low and then return to land. This is talked about in the whakataukī: **Ka whati te tai, ka pao te tōrea**, 'When the tide recedes, the tōrea strikes'

Do you get your mahi done on time and make the most of opportunities, like a tōrea?



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What can we learn
from tōrea?

How might we apply
this in our classroom?

