

MEKA MANU

Tieke

(Saddleback)

Genus: Philesturnus



Sparklers

Characteristics

Tīeke are small with strong legs! They easily bounce from rākau to rākau. When something is being done too much, you can use the whakataukī: **Me he wai tā tīeke**, ‘like the water spread around by a saddleback’. Since tīeke are energetic bathers!

Tīeke only survive on predator free islands. They have developed different tunes after 50 years of being scattered amongst offshore islands. These new songs have meant they can have trouble understanding tīeke from other areas.

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Singing can be so fun!

Sometimes we might sound really different to others, but that never stopped the proud tīeke from belting out a tune!

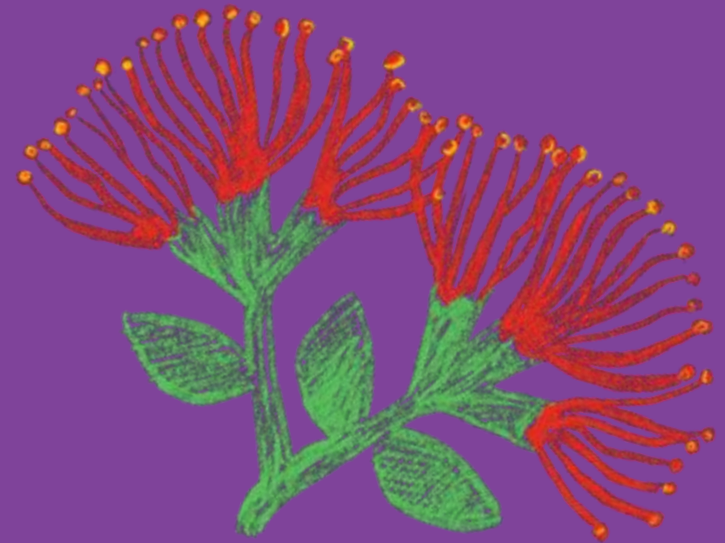
**Can you stand strong
in your singing? You
might be like a tīeke!**



Fun fact!

Tīeke mainly eat insects, but also fruit and nectar too.

They are great seed dispersers and help pollinate flowers!



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**What can we learn
from tīeke?**

**How might we apply
this in our classroom?**

