



How do people value waterways?

Learning outcome

- Students can identify different attitudes and values that people may hold about the local stream.

Method

1. To begin, students can brainstorm all the possible types of stream users e.g. fishermen, children, local businesses, tangata whenua, farmers.
2. Write a questionnaire with 6-10 questions in it or use the questionnaire provided (BLM 4). The questionnaire must discover who uses the stream, what it is used for and what the attitude of the stream user is towards the stream.
3. Get the students to go down to the stream or talk to a variety of potential stream users and get them to answer the questionnaire. Record and analyze the information collected, and present this to the class. This could be done as a written report, PowerPoint presentation, role play or a re-enactment of the interview. Some aspects that should be reported on are:
 - How is the stream used?
 - What do people feel about the stream?
 - How is it important to them?
 - How would people like the stream to look in the future?
4. Compile the results from each group and discuss the similarities and differences between the way people view and use the local stream.

Teachers' notes

The goal is to find out who uses the stream and how they feel about it. Interviewing members of the local community is the best way to find this out. You can do this by interviewing people from specific parts of the community or a random selection down by the stream. Community members can be spoken to directly, phoned, faxed, emailed, or written to. Stream users can be asked to visit the school (e.g. Forest and Bird, local iwi). If it is difficult interviewing real people, the students can get into pairs (one being the interviewer and the other the interviewee) and use the mock answer sheets to gain the information (BLM 5).