# NATIVE PLANT AND BUG HUNT

KIDS GREENING TAUPŌ

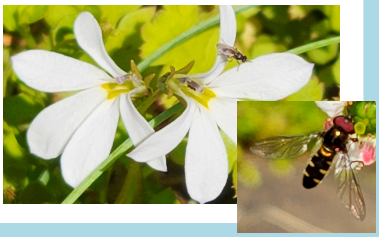
TAUPŌ MUSEUM
Taupō District Council

Did you know that our unique native plants all have insects that rely on them for their food and their habitat? Some insects only survive on one plant species. Some plants also rely on insects for pollination or seed dispersal.

See if you can find all of these plants in the museum courtyard or entrance area. Can you spot any bugs, or signs of bugs, on them?

Harakeke has flowers for our pollinating insects and leaves eaten by two native moths. Can you see holes from the 'windower' caterpillar?

Pānakenake has small white flowers to attract moths, small native bees and beetles for pollination. They are loved by native hoverflies.



Kawakawa has a looper caterpillar that uses it for a host plant. Can you spot holes nibbled in the leaves?

Putaputawētā is a host plant to puriri moth caterpillars. When they leave their burrows wētā move into them!

Mānuka flowers provide nectar for our butterflies, small native bees and flies. The leaves are eaten by 6 species of native stick insect!

Toatoa is the host plant to the haloragis mite, moth, and weevil, which only live on this plant. The weevil spends its entire life cycle on toatoa.

The cabbage tree moth camouflages with the dead leaves of the tī kōuka, with stripes that match perfectly. Its caterpillars eat the leaves.

Korokio is the host plant for 3 species of caterpillars. The flowers provide nectar for our small native bees and pollinating beetles.

Pohuehue is a host plant and food for our native copper butterflies. Spittle bugs and spiders like its wiry branches to hide in.

Climbing rātā have flowers that are loved by our native butterflies and bees. Its leaves are a popular food for native stick insects.

Kōtukutuku has blue pollen and nectar for our pollinating birds and insects. Its flowers change from green to pink after being pollinated!

Horopito plants are home to the caterpillars of 8 species of moth, two species of horopito weevil grubs, and the horopito whitefly!

www.kidsgreeningtaupo.org.nz