



# Piako

Catchment Forum

## Piako Tamariki Kaitiaki Holiday Ideas

## No 1: Build a Weta House



Wētā are very special and ancient native insects.

Lots of different species of wētā used to roam the forest floor eating seeds. But now our forests are home to introduced rats and mice and they eat wētā.

You can help the wētā in the Piako Catchment by making them safe homes.

This along with the current predator control, trapping mice, rats, mustelids and possums will mean everyone can have an opportunity to meet these dinosaurs of the insect world!

Weta need a dark, small, dry space away from predators....

Use one of the instruction sheets from our friends to help build a safe space for wētā. Thanks to KCC, DOC, Science Learning Hub and the Woolshed for their instructions....

<https://kcc.org.nz/portfolio/make-a-weta-house/>

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/toyota-kiwi-guardians/take-action/build-a-weta-motel/>

<https://www.sciencelearn.org.nz/resources/1964-building-homes-for-tree-weta>

another parent helper version:

<http://woolshed1.blogspot.com/2010/01/making-houses-for-new-zealand-native.html>

Not found one you like? Google building Weta Houses and lots of plans and images come up...

