Welcome to **Bioblitz - what's living in your backyard?**. This field trip takes place on **2-4 April 2019** and is supported by the Ministry of Education/Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga [2] and the Department of Conservation/Te Papa Atawhai [3]. Enrol now [4].

**Introduction**

Take a breathtaking journey into the heart of the Southern Alps to explore Ō Tū Wharekai, a unique highcountry wetland area. Join experts from the Department of Conservation to find out how to complete a Bioblitz and investigate the biodiversity of this stunning glacial carved landscape.

The air you breathe, the water you drink and the food you eat all rely on biodiversity. Biodiversity is not something that only exists in places like Ō Tū Wharekai. Your own backyard can be home to a surprising variety of plants and animals. On this field trip you will learn how to find, identify and record living things so you can then discover what's living in your own backyard.

- Watch the [introductory video](https://vimeo.com) - on Vimeo
- Meet [Shelley](http://www.learnz.org.nz) - LEARNZ field trip teacher
Location

Follow the mighty Rangitata River, one of the braided rivers that helped form the Canterbury Plains up into the Hakatere Conservation Park. Explore Ō Tū Wharekai, a protected wetland area nestled amongst high country tussocklands and surrounded by the towering Southern Alps/Kā Tiritiri o te Moana.

Ō Tū Wharekai is one of three sites that make up the national Arawai Kākāriki wetland restoration programme. This programme aims to protect wetlands and increase our understanding of these productive environments.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 1 April</td>
<td><strong>Travel day:</strong> Read the <a href="#">diary</a> about the journey from Dunedin to Mt Somers to begin the BioBlitz field trip. Read the <a href="#">ambassador updates</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 2 April</td>
<td><strong>Day 1:</strong> Explore Ō Tū Wharekai and watch the <a href="#">videos</a> to discover what's living in this unique high country wetland. Read the <a href="#">diary</a> to find out about a variety of strategies used to catch, identify and record local animals. See how you could use similar techniques to find out what lives in your backyard. Watch the <a href="#">recorded web conference</a> and read the <a href="#">ambassador updates</a>.</td>
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<td>Wednesday 3 April</td>
<td><strong>Day 2:</strong> Work with experts to identify and monitor native and introduced plants and animals. Watch the <a href="#">videos</a> to see what animals live in Ō Tū Wharekai. Read the <a href="#">diary</a> to discover more about the invertebrates you can catch here. Watch the <a href="#">recorded web conference</a> and read the <a href="#">ambassador updates</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 4 April</td>
<td><strong>Day 3:</strong> Watch the <a href="#">videos</a> to see how you can take action to preserve and restore biodiversity to an area. Read the <a href="#">diary</a> to discover more unique species found on the final day of the BioBlitz. Watch the recorded <a href="#">web conference</a> and read the <a href="#">ambassador updates</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>What's New</td>
<td><strong>Monday 1 April</strong> Newsletter 3 was sent to all enrolled teachers.</td>
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<td><strong>Monday 18 March</strong> Newsletter 2 was sent to all enrolled teachers.</td>
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The LEARNZ Team think that joining the [NZASE](https://nzase.org.nz/) and staying connected through the [NZ Science Teacher](http://nzscienceteacher.co.nz/) will help you become a better teacher of science.

**Source URL:** http://www.learnz.org.nz/bioblitz191

**Links**