

The Chronicles of Paki

Lots of ideas and handy hints for setting up your
programme.

Read this before you start!



'The Chronicles of Paki'

Exploring the books

Read this first:

'The Chronicles of Paki' is a series of five books: Te Powhiri, Te Pahi, Ruatara, Elizabeth Colenzo and Patuone. These five books tell the treasured stories of people of faith in the early years of Aotearoa, New Zealand's history.

Scripture Union has written a programme to help you explore these books with the children in your programmes. It is perfect for a Sunday School or an afterschool community programme, or any other place where you have children together. The programme is designed for a range of ages and it comes in five downloadable booklets that are free and easy to use. They are packed with great ideas to get your children excited about 'The Chronicles of Paki' and discover the stories for themselves. They will help you to dig deeper into how God has been at work in Aotearoa, New Zealand right from the very beginning.

Imagine this programme is a kete or basket filled with kai (food). You pull different vegetables out of the kete to suit the meal you are cooking up. This programme has different parts to it. Choose the parts that suit your children and community best, and fit within the time you have available. We will give you some suggestions but it is really up to you how you put this 'meal' together!

Each page of the booklet gives you a different part of the programme. It shows you how to use this with your children, the approximate time the activities will take and the equipment you will need. There are instruction cards and extra resources available from Scripture Union's website; www.sunz.org.nz

This booklet gives you some handy hints on setting up the programme and an overview of how it all fits together. Print it off and keep it somewhere handy.



Welcome

Kia Ora!

As you start this new series with the children in your programme, it is important to make sure that the children and adults who come along feel welcomed. Make them feel comfortable, make sure they are noticed. Here are some simple ways to do this:

Are you planning on using all six of the 'Chronicles of Paki' series?

Set your room up with a New Zealand theme to create an exciting feel to your programme.

- Create a waterfall down one wall with a long strip of blue fabric. Use patches of white cushion stuffing to create foam.
- Paint a couple of large tree trunks on paper and put them up on the wall on either side of the waterfall.
- Collect fake green leaves (from artificial flowers) or cut out green leaf shapes from paper. Glue these all over the tree branches.
- Cut pictures of native birds out of old calendars and add them to your trees.
- Play NZ nature sounds through your sound system.
- Have the children bring along bits and pieces to add to it each week.

Is this the first time the group has been together?

- Have someone at the door to welcome people as they arrive.
- Introduce each of the leaders and have each leader share a little bit about who they are, where they come from, and something about their whanau/family. They may like to share what they love about living in Aotearoa, New Zealand.
- Give the children the chance to share a little bit about themselves in a small group. This is easier than in front of the whole group.
- You may like to use name tags but it is important to remember names without relying on the name tag.

Does your group know each other well?

Sit around in a circle, or several circles if the group is too large. A circle is a good way to organise a group as everyone feels included.

Have each person (children and adults) share something about themselves. Depending on the group you might share:

- What you like about living in New Zealand.
- Something you like about God.
- Something about your whanau, i.e. what do you like doing for fun with your whanau?



What is inside the kete?

This programme has six different components to it. This is an overview of what each component includes and some handy hints to get you started.

Nga Kēmu Takaro—Get moving!

Kids have plenty of energy. They like to move. The great thing about games is that the kids have fun, but there is so much more going on than that. Running games with your children helps break the ice, builds their friendships with each other and helps you to get to know them better too. Get alongside them, encourage them to give the game a go. Laugh and have fun together! Each programme comes with two simple games ideas to try out. Choose one or both depending on how much time you have. Each game is designed to run for about 10 mins.

Waiata—Kids love to sing!

The great thing about singing is that it creates a great atmosphere. Songs are fun, they involved actions and movement. The words stay lodged in our memories for years to come. Songs are also an important part of our worship to God. They are not simply words that we sing but convey emotions. They provide us with an opportunity to respond to God. This programme includes two songs you could teach the children during this programme. We provide you with the words, a link to YouTube where you can listen to the song, and details of where you can purchase the song from.

Te Pukapuka—Read together!

'The Chronicles of Paki' are beautifully illustrated books. The best way to share this book is with a group small enough so everyone can see the pictures. If you have a large group you will need to get a couple more copies of the book and break up into small groups at this time. Handy Hint: Unless you are familiar with the Māori words used in these books it is very important to prepare well before hand. Make sure you can pronounce all the words correctly. Each programme includes a simple pronunciation guide to help you on your way. The programme also gives you a summary of the main points of the story to help with your preparation.



What else is inside the kete?

Korero—conversation starters!

There is nothing better than sitting down with a small group of children and having a korero or chat about God and faith. For leaders, asking good questions is at the heart of growing these conversations. A good question helps children and leaders to think more deeply about the story, and most importantly about God. This programme provides you with a few good questions to get your conversation going.

Paipera Tapu— the Bible!

Children have a great capacity for remembering, and storing away verses for the future. They are much better at it than adults. This is an excellent opportunity for children to memorise the very words spoken by Samuel Marsden at the first church service in Aotearoa on Christmas Day, 1814. This programme focuses on Luke 2:10 and each programme provides you with two methods for teaching the verse. They are heaps of fun, and guaranteed to lodge Luke 2:10 in the memories of the leaders and the kids. Choose the method that suits your group best.

Whai Whakaaro—exploring the story!

One of the best ways to explore these stories is by setting up different activities around the room. This programme gives you five station ideas to choose from. It also comes with instruction cards you can print off, laminate and place at each station so your children and leaders know what to do. These can be downloaded from our website. The benefit of stations is that they give children a choice. They can explore the stations in any order, and head to the ones that appeal to them. Children have different ways of learning and connecting with God. Stations allows for this! These station ideas include karakia/prayer ideas, crafts, tips for getting into the Bible and background information to help the children put the story in the context of history.



Extra Extra Extra

Get involved:

These stories are not just for kids. Share them with the rest of your church and the community. Let people know about the series in your advertising. Let people know that your programme will be looking at the early history of the arrival of the gospel in Aotearoa, New Zealand.

Look out for people who have a personal connection to the stories in 'The Chronicles of Paki' series. It is a special thing to give them a chance to share their story with the children, and to bring their personal experience to it.

- Maybe they come from one of the places mentioned in the story.
- Maybe they are related to someone in the story.
- Maybe this story is from their iwi or tribe.
- Maybe they have a good knowledge of New Zealand History and could share an interesting story or two, or answer some of the children's questions.

Travel: Could you visit one of the places mentioned in the story if it is near you? Take the books with you and re-read them while you are there. Take photos of the places as well as the children and leaders to create your own resource to use the next time you share these stories.

Is there someone at a local Marae near you who would love to share with the children something of the history of your area? Maybe you can find someone who can share a story about the gospel's arrival in your community. Maybe there is an older person in the church with great stories to share about the history of your church or community.

Now you are ready to start. Simply download the booklets you want to use and get going.

Mā te Atua e manaaki,

May God bless you.





For more information on Scripture Union New Zealand:

www.sunz.org.nz

0508 423 836

Facebook: Scripture Union New Zealand

To purchase the 'Chronicles of Paki' series:

www.sunz.org.nz

www.bigbookpublishing.co.nz