

Kārearea / NZ Falcon Rob the Nest Game

This game demonstrates the effects predators have on our native NZ Falcon: the Kārearea. See how tracking and trapping predators can help our Kārearea eggs to survive!

See the important role pest control has to play in species protection

- ① Split your group into two: one group are the predators, the other are Falcon. Have your falcon sit on their nests. You can make 'nests' out of hula-hoops or towels/blankets layed out in a circle. The eggs can be small balls or other small round items you have on hand.

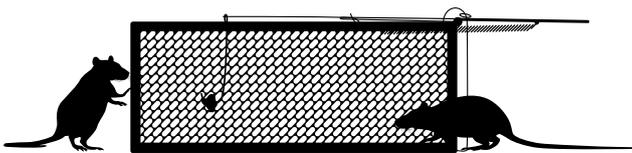


- ② Falcon's need to fly off to hunt for food, leaving their nests unprotected. This is when predators can sneak in and eat/steal the eggs. Have a set area the falcons must run/fly to 'eat' before heading back to their nest. Predators can then steal one egg at a time while the 'falcons' are away from the nest. Continue until all the eggs are gone.

- ③ Now let's introduce some predator control! Select two kids to be 'trappers'. These people can tag/catch the predators, stopping them from eating the eggs. If a predator is caught, they have to return the eggs they have taken and sit down.



Let's see if we can catch all the predators and save the eggs!!



Notes: Falcon normally nest in pairs, so you can have several falcon nests with two people on each nest.

You can choose to have predators caught by the predator controls, turn into baby falcons, thus demonstrating the growth in the Falcon population as well.

This game can be altered with any kind of species to help demonstrate the effects of predators on our native species.

You can also add in habitat loss by creating loggers. To counteract the loggers you add in DOC rangers that create reserves and protected areas for the native species.

***Hint: use bibs, or hi-vis vests (etc) of different colours to distinguish the difference between predators and native species.*