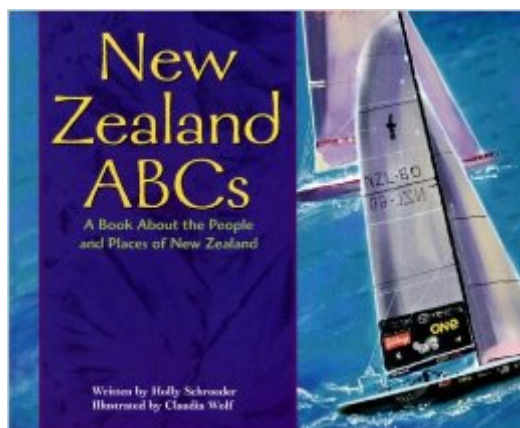


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# New Zealand ABCs: A Book About The People And Places Of New Zealand (Country ABCs)



## Synopsis

An alphabetical exploration of the people, geography, animals, plants, history, and culture of New Zealand.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD 790L (What's this?)

Series: Country ABCs

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Picture Window Books (January 1, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1404803564

ISBN-13: 978-1404803565

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 10.5 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #245,917 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Australia & Oceania #42 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Australia & Oceania #73 inÂ Books > History > Australia & Oceania > Australia & New Zealand

Age Range: 5 - 11 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

This is a cute little childrens book. My husband is from New Zealand, and I have lived there myself, we got this to give my 2 year old a bit of an introduction to NZ before we move back there next year. Being that she is only 2 this book was a decent place to start, in book format anyways, since there are limited options for books on this particular subject. From A for Aotearoa to Z ("zed" in NZ) for Godzone it has some interesting letter associations. A lot are not ones that I would have personally chosen, they could have made it much more NZ culture oriented oriented, but it is what it is. Some are flat out stupid (D for dollar, V for voting) and have no true NZ specific association or value. As other reviewers stated it is by no means a comprehensive look at New Zealand, but a fun introduction to a bit of the culture and language. I would recommend it for smaller children, like birth to 6. I found it mildly disappointing, it could have been a very beautiful informative book that provokes desires to learn about, travel to, and visit NZ. I just found a lot of the letter associations a

bit lacking.

Schroeder and Wolf have put together a lovely introduction to New Zealand with this offering in the series "Country ABCs". The text begins with a greeting in both English and Maori. Throughout the book, a respectful tribute to the Maori origin of the country and the Maori culture is apparent. The native terms, when used for a particular letter, are also written in phonetic spellings that incorporate words even young readers may have mastered. The alphabet letters are clearly designated and attractively highlighted with a border of Maori design. At the outset, drawings of the country and its placement in the hemisphere are clearly shown. The pictures correspond effectively to the word used for each letter. The landscapes and seascapes are particularly lovely. The text is clearly written to cover the major aspects of the country: origin, geology, culture, economy and politics. The last of these recognizes that New Zealand was the first to grant women the right to vote. Also acknowledged is the country's long-standing anti-nuclear stance. This reader, however, was surprised to see no mention of New Zealander, Sir Edmund Hillary, although the first woman to be elected prime minister in 1999, Helen Clark, was pictured. More of the Maori carvings and designs might have been included, but the overall effect of this book as it is, shows a fine cohesiveness in concept, text and illustrations. A brief "On the Web" section is included. A minimal glossary, index and a "To Learn More" bibliography makes this book a useful library skills teaching tool as well.

G'day! (English) Tena koe! (Maori greeting) Welcome to the country of New Zealand. This book will introduce your child to twenty six facts and more about New Zealand via the ABC's. On the first page, before the alphabet begins, the reader is shown on a map where New Zealand is located and the fact that it is in the South Pacific Ocean. On each page of the alphabet there is an illustration, a paragraph providing details on the topic and a 'Fast Fact'. What I also love is that the difficult alphabet words have the pronunciation beside them. For example: Aotearoa (ah-or-te-ah-ROAR) Learn about the flag, the different customs including the Maori culture, geysers, Southern Hemisphere, islands and so much more. At the end of the book there is a page labelled "New Zealand in Brief" with information on the capital, population, language, education, major holidays, climate, highest point, natural resources, money etc. On the facing page there are twelve words that you would not commonly hear over here in the USA. Following that there are eight Maori words for you to learn along with their pronunciations. A glossary is provided along with an index. Although definitely not a comprehensive book on the country, your young child will get a glimpse into some of the history, culture and present day, hopefully whetting their appetite to do

more research.

I purchased this book to use as we study the continents. (We are homeschooling). It gives tidbits of information about New Zealand, just enough for a surface glance at this country. Which is OK for our purposes, but would not be useful if you really wanted to study this country in depth. Also the pictures were drawn or sketched, and did not really give us a realistic look at this country. There are a couple of pages in the back that list all the basic facts about New Zealand, but these are presented in a boring fashion and not interesting to read. Therefore not useful to us, really. They almost seem like they are not part of the book, or maybe like someone's effort to redeem the informative value of the book. While this book will be somewhat helpful for us since we do not need to look at this country that deeply at this time, I would not be inclined to purchase any additional books in the ABC series.

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