

## Why the Kiwi has a long beak

There was a time when Tanemahuta's tree leaves were falling and he had to clean them up. Tanemahuta needed help so he had to ask the birds of the forest. He went up the tree to ask the birds if they would help clean the leaves.

First Tanemahuta asked Tui but Tui refused because Tui was nesting. Tanemahuta got so angry that he threw two white pebbles at Tui's neck. Because of that Tui has two white marks on his neck. Tanemahuta said "I will ask Tieke tomorrow" and walked home unhappily.

The next day he went up the tree again, but this time he asked Tieke if he would offer to help, but Tieke refused because he didn't like the cold on the ground.

When Tanemahuta heard that Tieke refused because he was cold he got so angry that he burnt his back bright red. This is why a Tieke has a bright red back. Tanemahuta said "I will ask Kiwi tomorrow" and walked back home angrily.

There was only one bird left to ask, which was his most favourite bird, Kiwi. He asked him "would you mind helping me clean the leaves of the forest" and Kiwi said "I would love to." Tanemahuta was so happy that he said to Kiwi "what do you need the most?" Kiwi said "I would love a longer beak so I can grab food more easily."

So Tanemahuta gave him a longer beak for agreeing to help Tanemahuta clean the leaves. That is why Kiwis have a long beak.

By Daniel

**KIWI**

