Title Slide

Tuia 250 Mātauranga First Encounters

Text on screen

Recently, we asked a group of students from Aotearoa to talk about Tuia First Encounters. These thoughts and perspectives are their own. Use this video to prompt discussion and explore your own perspectives and values.

What might have happened when Cook first landed?

Students' voices

He was the first Pākehā to come to New Zealand.

Captain Cook sailed and I think he reached New Zealand and was the first to land on the land.

Text on screen

Who was negatively affected by Cook's voyages? What are the consequences of this?

Students' voices

Captain Cook killed a bunch of people to say that he was powerful and they could have made great discoveries that led to this day.

If I could go back in time I would just go up to him, in his boat, push it back. Keep pushing it through the water and then still go back to the present and see how things have gone. And see if that made things better, and stuff like that.

I think the Māori might have felt quite, like, intimidated, like wondering why he's just come and turned up, without any notice. But then they also might be willing to negotiate as well.

I think they were, like, interested, what was out there like... What is this person? He doesn't look like us. Why is he so pale? Why has he got this different stuff? Why has he got these different clothes?

Text on screen

You have heard what these learners think. How would you answer this question? Pause this video to explore your perspectives.

How could we right some of the wrongs that occurred in the first encounters? For instance, would you celebrate by putting Cook on our money?

Students' voices

I wouldn't put Captain Cook on money because he killed some of the Māori people and Māori is a part of our culture. I don't think it's right to do that.

I wouldn't put Captain Cook on our money because he doesn't understand Māori so he thought that he could just tell them what to do and barge in and order them, get his men to kill them, and stuff like that, to say he's a powerful man.

And that it is actually wrong to just barge in and say okay, this is mine, and if you don't think I'm powerful enough then I'll just kill some people.

End titles

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