

PAINTING STORIES



by Kate Potter

Published 2023 by the Ministry of Education,
PO Box 1666, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.
education.govt.nz

All rights reserved.

Enquiries should be made to the publisher.

Publishing services: Lift Education E Tū

ISBN 978 1 77690 868 4 (print)

ISBN 978 1 77690 869 1 (online)

Editor: David Chadwick

Designer: Simon Waterfield

Replacement copies may be ordered from

Ministry of Education Customer Services,

online at www.thechair.co.nz

by email: orders@thechair.minedu.govt.nz

or freephone 0800 660 662

Please quote item number 90868.



This publication uses vegetable based
inks and environmentally responsible
paper produced from Forest Stewardship
Council® (FSC®) certified, Mixed Source
pulp from Responsible Sources.



Paper produced using
Elemental Chlorine Free
(ECF) and manufactured
under the ISO 14001
Environmental Management
System.



PAINTING STORIES

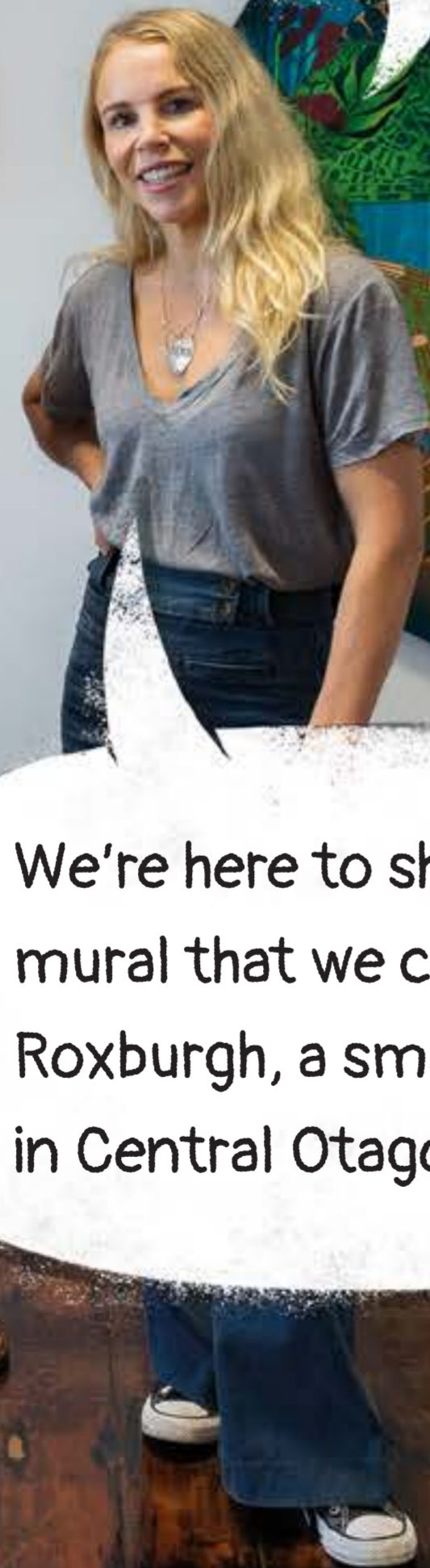
by Kate Potter

Ministry of Education

Hi, I'm Ross.
I'm an artist, and
my artist name
is TrustMe.



And I'm Hayley.
I'm an artist, too.
My artist name is Flox.



We're here to show you a
mural that we created in
Roxburgh, a small town
in Central Otago.

Do you know where
Central Otago is?
If you're not sure,
check out this map
of Te Waipounamu,
the South Island.



Our mural has lots of symbols.
A symbol is an image that
stands for something else.
For example, a fern frond is
part of a plant, but a silver fern
frond can also stand for a
sports team –
or a country!



What symbols
do you know?



Here's our mural!
It's painted on the wall
of a building in Roxburgh.
What are the first things
you notice?

Now look more closely.
What else can you see?
What do you think the
mural might be about?



Let's take a look together.
Did you spot some delicious
looking fruit? Central Otago
is famous for fruit, especially
apricots and cherries.



These kinds of fruit trees
do well in Otago because the
winters are very cold and the
summers are hot and dry.

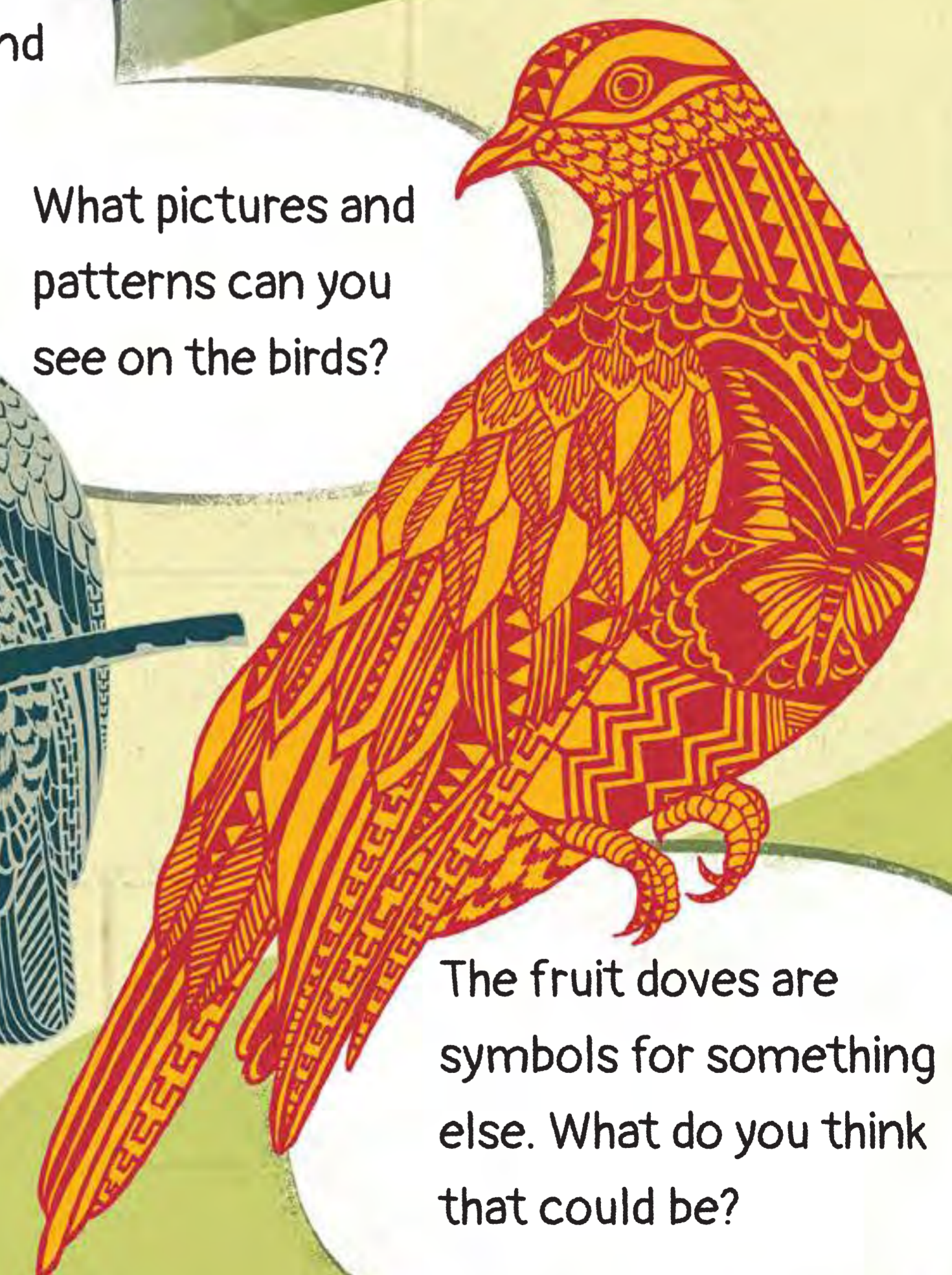
The cold winters make
the apricot and cherry trees
grow lots of fruit, and the hot
summers make their fruit ripen
so it's extra tasty and sweet.

People all around Aotearoa
New Zealand – and in lots of
other places around the world
– eat fruit from Otago!



The birds in our mural
are fruit doves – these
colourful birds are found
in Asia and the Pacific.

What pictures and
patterns can you
see on the birds?



The fruit doves are
symbols for something
else. What do you think
that could be?



The fruit doves are a symbol for workers who come to Central Otago to pick fruit. Many of these fruit pickers come from Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. They stay in Aotearoa for several months of the year. They don't see their families while they are working here.



The patterns on the birds are often seen in Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. We made the birds extra large to show that these people are an important part of the Roxburgh community. We hope the mural will make them feel welcome and at home while they're here.



There are other things in the mural that connect to these workers: hibiscus flowers, sprouting coconuts, and coconut crabs. Can you find all three things in this pattern?



Roxburgh is in the Teviot Valley. A powerful awa runs through this valley – Mata-au. It's the largest and fastest river in Aotearoa. Look closely to find the awa in our mural.

For hundreds of years, Māori living on the east coast of Te Waipounamu travelled up Mata-au to collect kai. They caught tuna, weka, kererū, and even giant moa. The area around Roxburgh was a good place to camp.

Is there an awa near you? What stories do you know about it? Why do you think people often chose to travel by river hundreds of years ago?

For Māori, Mata-au was also part of a trail that led to the west coast, where pounamu is found. The trail went up and over the mountains. The journey was long and often difficult, but the precious stone was worth it.

After collecting pounamu, Māori used the powerful currents of Mata-au to carry them back to their kāika.

The tīpuna knew the river very well. They knew where the safe harbours were and the good places to tie up waka.



There are many stories told about the awa. One pūrākau is about Kōpūwai, a giant who lived near the river with his pack of ferocious two-headed dogs.

Kōpūwai used a taura – a flax rope – to keep a young girl named Kaiamio as a slave. Every day, she had to collect water in a gourd for Kōpūwai and his dogs. But Kaiamio was clever. She tricked Kōpūwai and managed to escape.

Can you see the rope of Kōpūwai in the mural and the gourds that Kaiamio filled?

Like many places in Aotearoa, Mata-au has more than one name. Its English name is the Clutha River. It's named after a river in Scotland.

Scottish people came to the area a long time ago. Many of them became farmers.

This is the Scottish flag. It's a symbol of Scotland. Can you find this flag in our mural?

Another symbol of Scotland is the purple thistle. In Aotearoa New Zealand, the thistle is thought to be a weed, but in Scotland, it's the country's national flower! We added thistles to our mural to show that many people in Roxburgh still feel connected to Scotland.

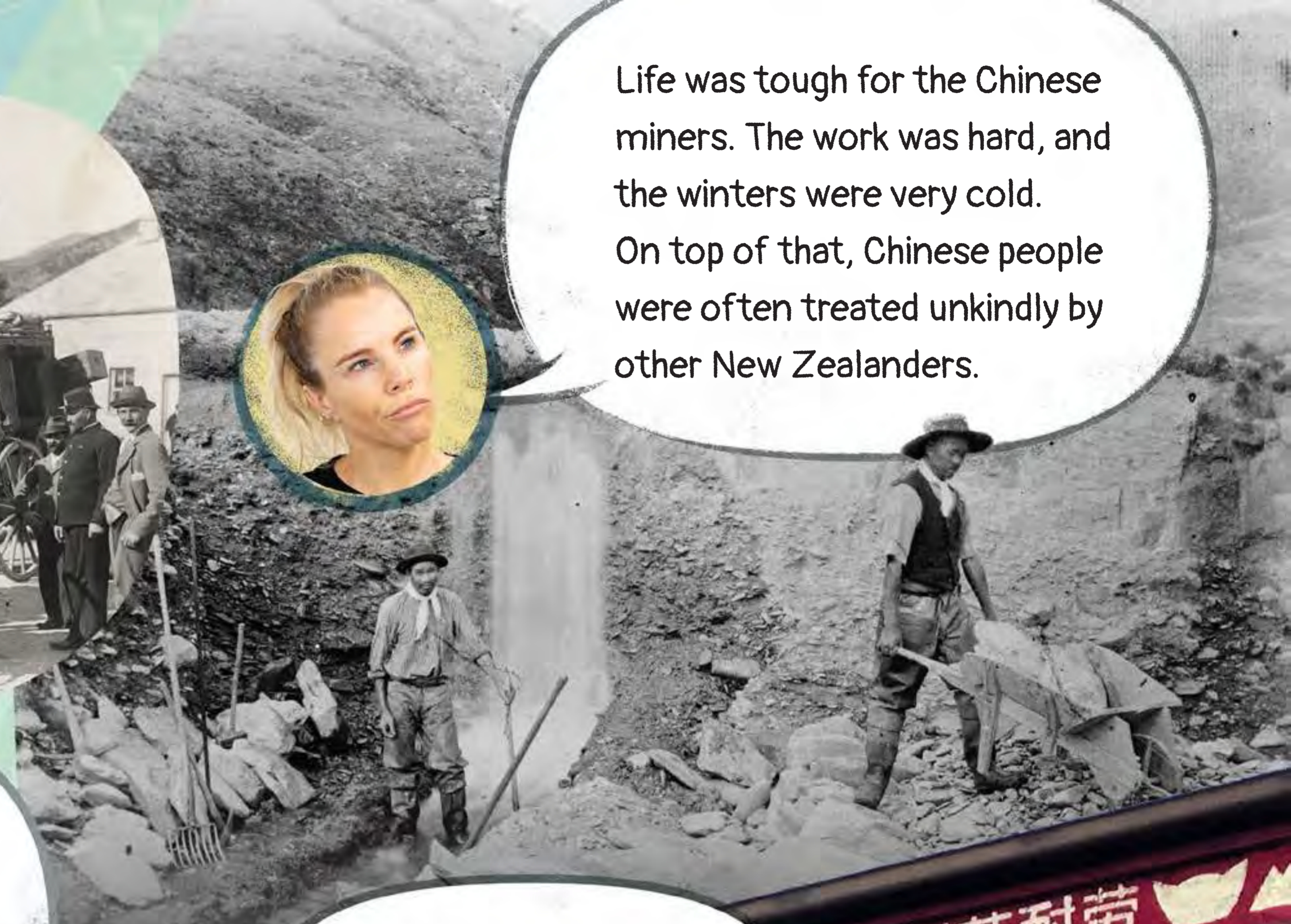
This thistle symbol comes in two sizes in our mural. Can you find them both?



Mata-au has always held many treasures – one of them was gold. When settlers found gold in the Teviot Valley, people came from around the world to try to find some too.



Life was tough for the Chinese miners. The work was hard, and the winters were very cold. On top of that, Chinese people were often treated unkindly by other New Zealanders.



Some of the miners came from China. They called Otago “New Gold Mountain”. Can you find the mountains in our mural?


The golden boat in our mural is a Chinese symbol for wealth. Many Chinese miners made money and then returned home to their families. Others stayed and made Aotearoa their home.

The writing on the mural is about keeping going when times are tough.

It’s like saying “Kia kaha!” or “You can do it!”

刻苦耐劳





Roxburgh may be a small town,
but as you can see from our mural,
it's a place that's important to lots
of different people and cultures.

Who are the people
who are connected
to your community?

How could you help people
who live in your place feel like
they are welcome and belong?

Acknowledgments

The Ministry of Education and Lift Education would like to thank Hayley King (Flox) and Ross Liew (TrustMe) for allowing their mural in Roxburgh to be the focus of *Painting Stories* and for their contribution to the development of the book.

We would also like to thank Teviot Prospects, Central Otago District Arts Trust, Central Otago District Council, and Paul McDowall and Deborah Darling at Roxburgh Area School for their support.

All text is copyright © Crown 2023.

The images on the following pages are copyright © Crown 2023:

2-4 and 6-15 (Flox and TrustMe) and 16 (Flox only) by Stacey Simpkin

12 (Kaiamio and Kōpūwai) by Scott Pearson

3 (silver fern), 3 and 11 (additional map work) by Simon Waterfield

The images on the following pages are used with permission:

Cover, back cover, inside front cover, contents page, 3 (thistle motif), 4-5 (building and mural), 6 (apricot stencil), 7 (fruit dove stencils), 8 (building with painting in progress), 9 (crab and hibiscus stencils), 10 (mural), 12-13 (mural detail), 14 (Chinese symbols and boat-mountains stencils), 14-15 (mural detail), and 16 (building) copyright © Hayley King/Ross Liew

6 (orchard) copyright © Getty Images/WOWstockfootage/The Image Bank

6 (apricot in hand) copyright © Getty Images/Science Photo Library

7 (fruit dove) by Hal Beral, copyright © Getty Images/Corbis

8 (fruit picker) copyright © Rob Suisted/NaturesPic.com

9 (hibiscus flower) by Kinga Krzeminska, copyright © Getty Images/Moment

9 (sprouting coconut) by David Trood, copyright © Getty Images/DigitalVision

9 (crab) by Martin Harvey, copyright © Getty Images/The Image Bank

11 (greenstone) copyright © Simon Nathan

13 (Scottish flag) by Steve Allen, copyright © Getty Images/Stockbyte

The images on the following pages are from the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington and are used with permission:

14 (stagecoach) reference MNZ-1736-1/2-F

15 (goldminers) reference 1/2-019144-F

The image on the following page is used under a Creative Commons licence (CC BY 2.0):

10 (Roxburgh Gorge) entitled "Roxburgh Gorge" by Robin Capper/Flickr from bit.ly/3F5ZHx3 (cropped from original)

The image on the following page is used under a Creative Commons licence CC (BY 4.0):

3 and 11 (base map) sourced from the LINZ Data Service at data.linz.govt.nz

Go to Social Sciences Online (ssol.tki.org.nz)
for a PDF of *Painting Stories* as well as
teacher support material (TSM)
for this text.

