1.32 Introducing penguins

Topic: Animals
Subtopic: Birds
Activity type/skill: Text prediction
Literacy focus: Listening
Genre: Information reports

Objective
- Ascertain and give credit for prior knowledge.
- Predict what might be in a text about penguins.
- Use vocabulary essential for the topic.

What you need
- Student worksheet (see next page)

What to do
1. Look at the pictures on the student worksheet and talk about penguins to draw out students' existing knowledge of the subject and vocabulary.

2. Have students try to predict what might be included in a talk about penguins. Support them as they put their knowledge into words.

3. Work together to produce a simple star diagram of what might be covered in the talk and the knowledge they already have of the subject, for example:
   - what they are – birds
   - where they live – sea, ice, water
   - what they eat – fish
   - what they look like – no wings, black, stand up
   - what they do – swim, walk, eat, lay eggs.

Extending the activity
- Use websites and books to provide additional knowledge and familiarity with the vocabulary, for example, www.penguin.net.nz.

Penguins

strong beak

smooth body

small wing