

## EXPLORING A WETLAND

# Dip netting

Keep your eyes peeled, and act with stealth, and you'll notice a lot of what's living around the wetland; but to see what is living in the water, you'll need to use a special tool!

**Scotty Moore**, KCO for **KCC Whanganui**, shares with us five top tips and tricks for dip netting.



Dip your net, and sweep it slowly. You're more likely to catch something.



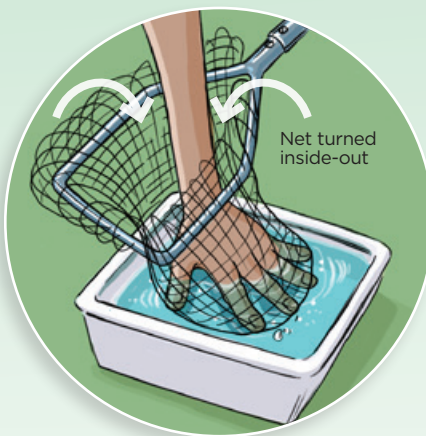
Make sure to dip and sweep your net at different levels and in different habitats. Different species can be found near the bottom, in the middle, and at the top of the water, as well as under vegetation, or under banks.



A white-coloured viewing container (like an ice cream container or tote tray) is best - it helps you to see the invertebrates and plants more easily.



Take water for the viewing container from the wetland you're studying - it will make the experience less of a shock for the wetland invertebrates.



When you're ready to transfer, carefully turn your net inside-out over the viewing container, and gently wipe it over the surface of the water. If you quickly tip your net over and/or give it a big shake, you could hurt the invertebrates or plants, lose them, or miss them!

### Taiho | Hold up!

Has your equipment been checked, cleaned, and dried? It is really easy to spread invasive species and diseases across waterways if we aren't careful!

Want to make your own dip-net at home or school? Go to our website for step-by-step instructions.



Take an adult with you if you're exploring water.