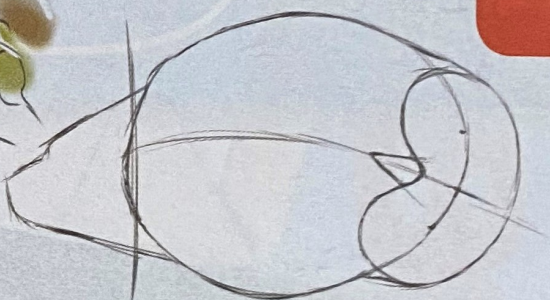


Draw a ruru in 4 steps

with Adele Jackson

The morepork (*Ninox novaezeelandiae*) is New Zealand's only surviving native owl. Its Māori name is ruru.

1 Lightly sketch the three main shapes of the bird. Draw a face shaped like a super-hero mask, an oval for the body, a bumpy 'V' for the tail and a line for the branch. Now draw a light, curved line down the centre of the bird so you'll be able to draw the eyes in the right place.



2 Draw the eyes, and add white reflections to the pupils. Sketch in the feathered brows, nostrils on the beak and feather markings. Add feet, and sketch in the branch. Rub out the centre line last.



3 Keep adding more detail to your drawing. Use small, light strokes to make the feathers around the eyes and on the tail. Draw in the markings on the bird's chest.



4 Use pencils or paints to colour your drawing. Start by filling in the lightest colour first and gradually adding darker colours on top. Lastly, add some leafy branches.



About your
illustrator

Adele lives high on Te Ahumairangi Hill in Wellington, in the bushy corridor leading from the bird sanctuary Zealandia. She loves dusk, when she can hear the *kākā* calling to each other.