



NON-FICTION



Ben & Mark: Boys of the High Country

Christine Fernyhough & John Bougen

Random House New Zealand

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Target age 8+

The true story of two boys who live on one of New Zealand's largest high-country stations. Lovingly told by Christine Fernyhough and with stunning photographs by John Bougen, this book is destined to become a New Zealand classic.



Christine Fernyhough runs Castle Hill Station, near Porters Pass in Canterbury, with her husband John Bougen. An ardent advocate of learning and reading, she was the co-founder of the Books in Homes programme and later the Gifted Kids programme. In 2007 she published the award-winning *The Road to Castle Hill*, about her switch from life in Auckland to that of a high-country farmer.



John Bougen is a farmer, photographer, businessman and Guinness World Record-holding traveller. His camera has been in action on ten books, including the award-winning *Made in Morocco* (with Julie le Clerc), *The Road to Castle Hill* (with Christine Fernyhough) and, most recently, *Bowling Through India* (with Justin Brown and Brendon O'Hagan).

Great Activity and Event Ideas

1. Visit a high country sheep farm for a day or organise a class visit to a rural school.
2. Discuss the pros and cons of living in an isolated place a long way from town. What would you miss?
3. Organise a debate on the topic "Living in the Country is Healthier than Living in the City".
4. Organise a country fair or mini A&P Show with dressing up, competitions, country dancing, food and fun.
5. Unscramble these words to do with farming and find out what they mean:

Redchngin

Chrutcgni

Eew

Komos

Oinrem

Wayathun

Yah

Catlet

Srahere



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Activity

Design a poster or web page to promote your country fair.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the student to design a poster or web page.