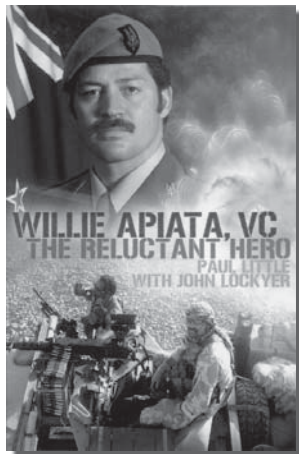




NON-FICTION



Willie Apiata, VC: The Reluctant Hero

Paul Little & John Lockyer

Puffin Books

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Target age 10+

From his amazing childhood growing up on New Zealand's East Coast, to his favourite pig-hunting adventures and the people that inspired him along the way, this is the story of Willie Apiata, VC - an ordinary Kiwi bloke, a very reluctant hero.



Paul Little is one of New Zealand's most experienced journalists. He has been editor of *Metro*, the *NZ Listener* and *FQMen* magazines, contributed to numerous other publications and also written for television and radio. He is the author of three previous biographies. He was editor of *Heritage New Zealand*, a columnist for *North and South* and conducts the popular 'Ways With Words' writing seminars for corporate clients.



John Lockyer is a teacher. In 1990, after working in many schools and experiencing many positions including senior teacher, deputy principal and principal, he decided to give up his administrative responsibilities to spend more time teaching and writing.

'Teaching is a lot like writing,' he says. 'Even after careful planning, I'm never sure what's going to happen each day. And that's what makes it exciting.'

Great Activity and Event Ideas

1. Visit an army, naval or airforce base near you eg. Linton, Trentham, Waiouru, Wigram, Devonport. Find out what the men and women who live and work there do.
2. Visit an army museum or military display at a local museum. Who are New Zealand's other war heroes? What acts of courage and bravery did they do?
3. Make up a training obstacle course in a park or on a beach or arrange to visit one at an army base or Police training location. Time the participants. Who is fittest?
4. Who are the heroes in your family? Share a story of courage.
5. Create a photo/ medal/ memorabilia exhibition.



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Activity

Who are our NZ heroes?

Choose one, research their achievements and develop a presentation of their life. Use powerpoint, drama or a speech.