44. E RERE, E Tī

E rere, e Tī
Fly, Tī
E huri, e Tī
Turn, Tī
Rere mai, rere atu
Fly here, fly away
Rere iho, rere ake
Fly down, fly up
Huri mai, huri atu
Turn here, turn away
Huri iho, huri ake
Turn down, turn up
Ti, Ti, Tirairaka
Ti, Ti, Tirairaka

E piki, e Tī
Climb up, Tī
E heke, e Tī
Down, Tī
Piki mai, piki atu
Climb here, climb away
Piki iho, piki ake
Climb down, climb up
Heke mai, heke atu
Down to me, and away
Heke iho, heke ake
Down and up high
Ti, Ti, Tirairaka
Ti, Ti, Tirairaka

E keko, e Tī
Wink, Tī
E whio, e Tī
Whistle, Tī
Keko mai, keko atu
Wink here, wink there
Keko iho, keko ake
Wink down, wink up
Whio mai, whio atu
Whistle here, whistle there
Whio iho, whio ake
Whistle down, whistle up
Ti, Ti, Tirairaka
Tī, Tī, Tirairaka

Nei he namu, e Tī
Here is a sandfly, Tī
Nā he namu, e Tī
There is a sandfly, Tī
Timo atu, timo mai
Peck away, peck here
Kapo atu, kapo mai
Snatch away, snatch here
He timo, he namu
A peck, a sandfly
He kapo, he namu
A snatch, a sandfly
Ti, Ti, Tirairaka
Ti Ti, Tirairaka
This waiata can be performed as a chant, then a dance with sound effects, and then back to a chant. Poi can be used as well.

Students can create a dance using fantail movements. This song provides lots of opportunity for creative movement to show the fantail as it darts, flits, and grabs while feeding.

Once the students are familiar with the vocabulary, place them in pairs to practise giving and following instructions. One student calls out a phrase from the waiata, and the other student follows the instruction in the manner of a fantail.

Focus on the words that indicate position, for example, “mai”, “atu”, “ihoh”, and “ake”, and the words that indicate action, such as “huni”, “heke”, “keko”, “whio”, and “kapo”.

*The song sheets for all waiata and haka are at the back of this book.*