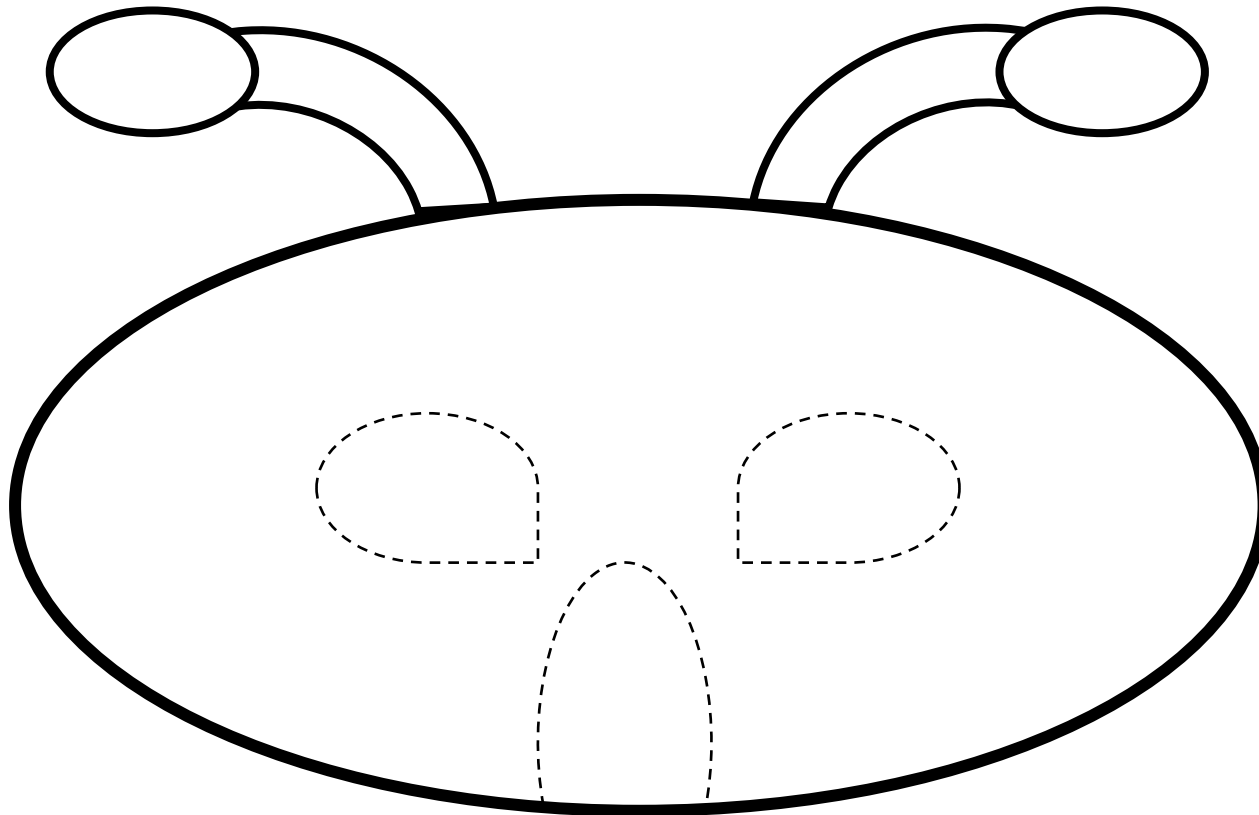


MAKE A NATIVE BEE MASK

- New Zealand is home to 28 species of ngaro huruhuru (native bee species).
- There are 7 types known as 'masked bees' (Hylaeus species), named for the yellow or white markings on their faces.
- They look like small black wasps, with slender bodies (7-9mm long) and hardly any hair.
- They are important pollinators of native flowers including the endemic and endangered pikirangi (red mistletoe).
- They don't have any pollen carrying structures on their legs – instead they store pollen in a stomach crop then regurgitate it to feed their larvae.
- Like most of our other native bee species, masked bees are solitary, but instead of creating tunnels in the soil they live in holes found in branches and logs.



Distinctive yellow face markings



*Draw your own yellow markings on the mask – try and make your design symmetrical. Colour the rest of the head in black.
Cut carefully around the outline, nose piece and eye holes – tailor to fit your face shape and size.
Attach mask with string or a strip of paper. We'd love to see your photos – share them with us on Facebook.*



Hylaeus species foraging