

# BOOKRAPT™

THE BAY OF PLENTY CHILDREN'S LITERATURE ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED



www.bookrapt.org.nz  
info@bookrapt.org.nz

## ***In the Bush* by Gillian Candler, illustrated by Ned Barraud**

**Publisher: Pottan & Burton**

**RRP \$19.99 (Paperback)  
\$29.99 (Hardback)**

This is a wonderful book to inspire children and adults alike to learn more about the New Zealand bush. The first double page invites the reader to experience the diversity of life, colours, sounds, textures, and smells of the forest. The invitation is made compelling by the active language and detailed illustrations, which work together to successfully draw us in. From this first page, we are immersed in the unique natural environment.

The reader is able to explore the forest through a mixture of narrative and fascinating facts, accompanied by accurate illustrations. Good use of colour evokes the special character of our native forests. There is drama and interest everywhere, from the grey warbler feeding the shining cuckoo chick, to the stoat heading towards a kiwi nest.

Vivid language and succinct sentences make this a satisfying book to read aloud. It is also a great resource for a young person who is learning about the New Zealand bush to read on their own.

It is good to see a contents page, an index, a glossary, and further reading included. A bonus is a waterproof forest bird identification card, which can be taken on a bush walk. These features along with the excellent illustrations, text and design give this book the X factor.

*In the Bush* is part of a series called *Explore and Discover* - other titles are *At the Beach*, *In the Garden*, and *Under the Ocean*.

**Author's website:**

[www.gilliancandler.co.nz/writing](http://www.gilliancandler.co.nz/writing)

**Illustrator's website:**

[www.nedbarraud.com](http://www.nedbarraud.com)

**Book webpage:**

[www.pottonandburton.co.nz/store/in-the-bush](http://www.pottonandburton.co.nz/store/in-the-bush)

**Reviewed by Lee Rowe, Librarian, MLIS, RLIANZA, ALIANZA**

