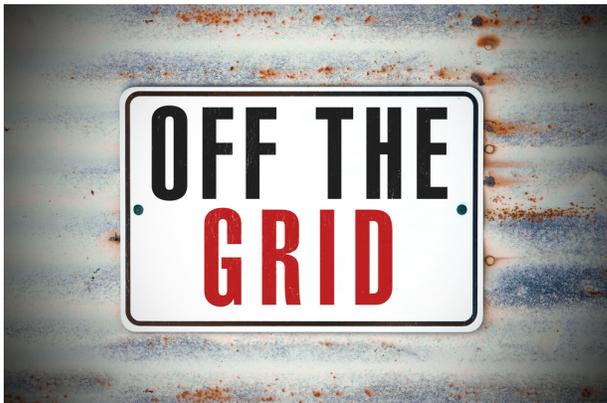


# LIVING OFF THE GRID



GREAT BIG STORY

Learn with stories that inspire!

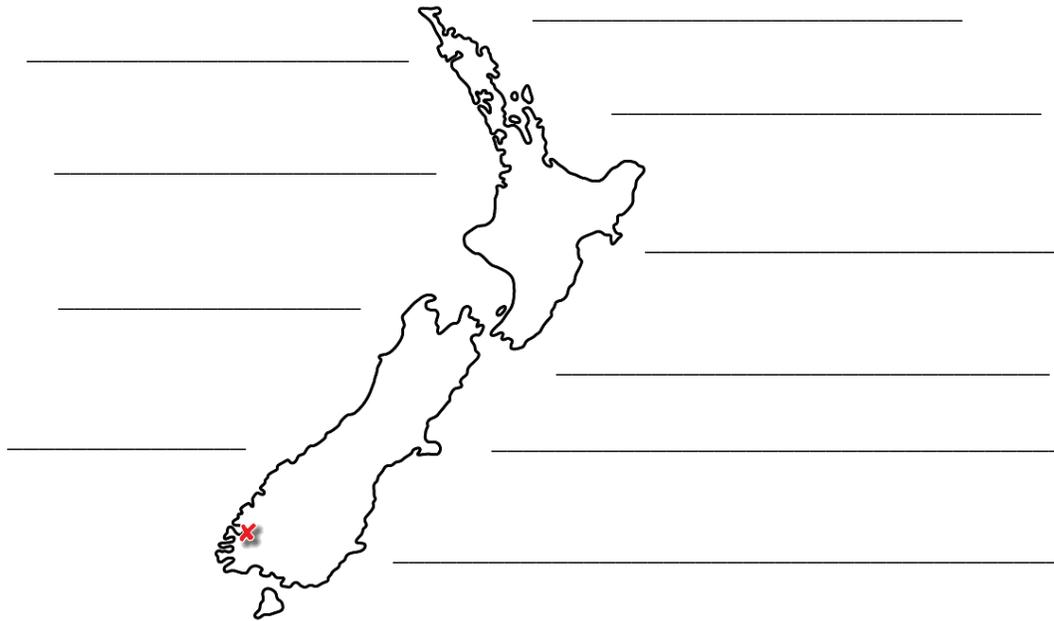
- \*Video story
- \* Pre During Post Watching Activities
- \*Off Grid Planning Template
- \*Transcript
- \*Answer key

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Living "Off The Grid"

A. You will spend one year by yourself living in a remote part on the tip of New Zealand. List all the things you'll need to take on the plane ride there so you can survive. After compare.



B.  Watch & Check.

Which things does Warrick mention ?

internet		rainwater		kayak
glacier		deer		freezer
boats		stove		wilderness
television		quad bike		storm

**C. Task – Survival Items**

If you were in Warrick's shoes, living alone in Fiordland, New Zealand which of these items would be most useful when living off the grid. Discuss.

Rank the items from 1 (most useful and important) to 15 (least useful and unimportant).

**How useful will the following items be?**





[Warrick] We're four days walk from the nearest road. The landscape's vast, the wilderness is almost unlimited. The access is by aircraft, on foot, or on the right day, you can boat it, but it's a challenge in itself. Really, we are at the mercy of the weather and the tides in our day to day life. It's difficult living out here, but if you do what's needed and everything comes together, it's a really rewarding place to be



[Narrator] Warrick Mitchell lived in Fiordland, New Zealand's oldest and largest national park. It covers over 12,000 square kilometers, but is home to only a few dozen people. The park's massive mountain range isolates Warrick from civilization.

[Warrick] Living out here, like everywhere, you need shelter, a good dry camp. We have solar panel for power, lighting, and our satellite communications. We have a quad bike, we have two boats for fishing and diving, and we have the freezer which keeps our food and our produce cold.

We rely on rainwater for drinking water, so that's not too hard with seven meters of rainfall annually. We largely live off the land. When you're living off the land, you're really at the mercy of the weather and the elements, so there's certain times that will allow you to go out and harvest a deer or catch a fish, capture the menu.

If you have a down day and the waves are really good, you're more than likely gonna go surfing. If the waves aren't good, but the river's looking nice, you might catch a trout. If the waves are flat but the ocean's calm, you might go sea fishing. If the ocean's stormy, you might go up the river for a kayak or go through the bush and see if you can spot a deer.

Living in the wilderness doesn't mean you're living in isolation from people. We certainly couldn't be doing what we do if it wasn't for the pilots and our neighbors and our friends.

Whether it's the harshness of the environment and being so isolated that brings people together or the fact that the people that are willing to travel this far have like minded passion for the environment and the outdoors, one thing's for sure over the years is that the community's become really tight knit.

Can you go ahead and turn this main switch on and we'll just see if she wants to work? Oh, no.

When things break or things don't go your way, it's always really important to remember you're in the green. The experience is being out here and enjoying being out here. Everything else is a bonus, so you can't get too serious if one thing breaks.

I don't know too many places in the world where you can stand on a boat looking back and you can just see ocean leading into forest leading into massive snow-capped mountains and glacier-shaped bays with pristine rivers and clear water. The trees are as they were 200 years ago, and the people that I bring out here, they get to experience this nature as it was and as it should be, and we try to keep the area and the environment pristine in this little corner of New Zealand.

# Couple Spends 20 Years Building A Self-Sustaining, Floating Island To Live Off The Grid

This floating fortress of sustainable living floating on the coast of Vancouver Island British Columbia goes to show just how wonderful living off the grid can be. Wayne Adams, 66, and Catherine King, 59, built these man-made islands together in 1992, and have been growing and fishing for their own food ever since.

The floating island home, which they've named "Freedom Cove," consists of 12 lake floats that include a dance floor, an art gallery, a guest lighthouse, a studio for Catherine King and Wayne Adams, and five greenhouses. The self-sustaining settlement has half an acre of land for growing edible crops. The couple gets water from a nearby waterfall during the summer and from rainwater during the winter. An array of 14 solar panels had powered the settlement but recently switched to a generator after these broke down.

When they aren't working on their sustainable off-grid lifestyle, they still manage to keep busy; during the summer, visitors come from nearby Tofino to experience the family's sustainable lifestyle. Adams is also a carver, while King is a painter, dancer, writer, and musician.

## 1. Read the text and choose the correct option.

### 1. To live off the grid means

- a) to live on a boat b) to live unconventionally c) to live like artists

### 2. Self-sustaining means

- a) something that floats b) something that does not need any outside help
- c) something that is continued in time.

### 3. Crops are

- a) fruits,vegetables and grain b) money c) animal products

### 4. They switched to a power generator for electricity because

- a) They preferred it b) it was better c) something stopped working

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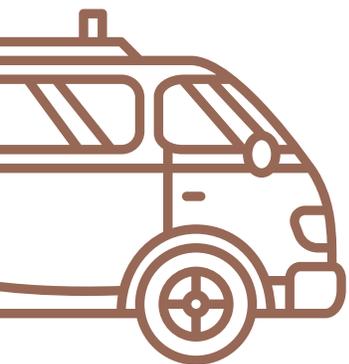
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# Life Off Grid



You have decided to life off-grid in a van.  
What things do you need to do to the van or buy?  
How will you live day to day. Explain.

## **THINGS WE NEED**

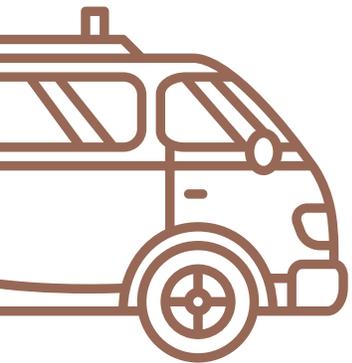


Name:

# *Our Life Off-Grid In A Van*

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How we'll live. Where we'll go



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