



Kia Kaha te Reo Taiao

Language of the Environment
Give it a Go!

Ko Ranginui
e tū nei

HE WHAKATAKI | INTRODUCTION

Kia Kaha Te Reo Māori Kia Kaha Te Reo Taiao

Strengthening our Language
Strengthening our Environment

Māori are the tangata whenua of Aotearoa New Zealand, the people of the land. This term reflects the importance of the environment – Te Taiao – to Māori identity, culture and tikanga. Whakapapa connects people, the environment and living things.

Upon arrival in Aotearoa, Māori began describing the environment around them and what they observed – the maunga, the awa, the birds and the insects. Over time, a new language – te reo Māori – evolved, shaped by the unique environment of Aotearoa.

Te reo Māori, the Māori language, like so many of our other taonga in Aotearoa, is threatened. But, like the environment, with collective understanding, care and action the language will thrive.

This booklet was developed to provide information about the natural world, and to help you become familiar with te reo Māori words and phrases you can use while you are out enjoying Te Taiao, the unique environment of Aotearoa.

MĀORI
ASTRONOMY

Te Tātai Arorangi Māori

Ki ngā tīpuna Māori he
mea raranga ngā kōrero
tātai arorangi ki ngā
āhuatanga katoa o te ao.

For the ancestors of
Māori, astronomy
was interwoven into
all facets of life.

Ka aro ngā tohunga kōkōrangi
ki te rangi mai i te tōnga o te rā
ki tōna aronga ki te mātakitaki
i te putanga o ngā whetū, ka kimi
whakamārama ai nā runga
i te wāhi o te rangi e iri nei rātou,
i ō rātou tae, i ngā nekehanga me
te āhua o te māramatanga. *wh. 1*

Māori astronomy experts,
tohunga kōkōrangi would
observe the sky from
sunset to sunrise, noting
the appearance of the stars,
and deducing meanings
from their position, colour,
movement and brightness. *pg. 1*

I aro te Māori ki ngā whetū e
mārama ai ia ki tōna taiao, e
pai ai hoki tana mahi i reira,
arā, ka mātakitaki i te rewanga
me te tōnga o ngā wāhanga
o ngā whetū hei tohu i te wā
ki te whakatō kai, ki te hauhake
kai, ki te whai kararehe, ki te hī ika,
ki te hanga whare, ki te hāereere,
ki te hākari, ki te karakia. *wh. 2*

Māori used the stars to
understand and interact with
their environment, looking
for the rising and setting of
different points of light to tell
them when to plant, when to
harvest, when to hunt, when
to fish, when to build, when
to travel, when to celebrate
and when to pray. *pg. 2*

He mea whakatū te nuinga o
ēnei mahi hou i te reo Māori
i te rangahautanga o ngā waiata
o mua, o ngā karakia me ngā
kōrero tātai arorangi katoa e
whai wāhi nei ki te reo. *wh. 5*

The resurgence of Māori
astronomy is founded on
te reo Māori, exploring
traditional songs, incantations
and any recorded account of
Māori astronomy that makes
up part of the language. *pg. 4*

He mea tango mai i te pukapuka *Matariki Te
Whetū Tapu o te Tau nā Rangī Matamua*
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Te Heketū Leon Blake ngā kōrero i whakamāori.
Ko Pania Papa te kanohi hōmiromiro.

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Oropuare | Vowels

There are five vowel sounds in Māori. They can be pronounced 'short' or 'long'. The long vowel is marked with a macron.

a is close or similar to father

i is close or similar to see

u is close or similar to goose

e is close or similar to dress

o is close or similar to thought

a e i o u

ā ē ī ō ū

When the vowel is long, with a macron above it, say the vowel for twice as long.

Ororua | Two Vowels and Diphthongs

When two different vowels are together they either retain their basic sounds and are pronounced one after the other or they 'glide' from one vowel to the other vowel to make a different sound we call a diphthong.

Examples of common diphthongs are ai, ae, au, ou, oe, ao.

ai oe
ae au
ou ao

Orokati | Consonants

There are 10 consonants, they are:

h k m n ng
p r t w wh

ng as in singer

r is usually not rolled. The r sound is created when the tip of the tongue briefly touches the top of the mouth behind the teeth.

wh as in film

NGĀ KĪANGA WHĀNUI | GENERAL PHRASES

Now you've got the basic pronunciation covered,
have a go at these everyday phrases

Hello

Kia ora
Tēnā koe

How are you?

Kei te pēhea koe?
E pēhea ana koe?
Kei te aha koe?

Did you know?

A great way to
say 'I'm sorry' is:

Mō taku hē

My bad

Feel sorry for me

Aroha mai

Awesome!

Tau kē!
Ka rawe!
Kino kē!
Ka mau te wehi!

Bye

Said to someone not leaving:

Hei konei rā
Noho mai rā

Said to someone leaving:

Haere rā

Te Ao o Tangaroa

Marine

Toitū te Marae o Tāne
Toitū te Marae o Tangaroa
Toitū te Iwi

The Land Endures
The Sea Endures
We, the People, Endure

He makariri te wai?

Is the water cold?



tai
tide



rimurimu
seaweed

Tangaroa
God of Sea

Hinemoana
Female Guardian
of the Sea

ngā ngaru
waves

Hei aha te kirihou,
kei te whakaiti au
i te nui o aku para

No plastic thanks, I am trying
to cut down on waste

wai ora, wai māori
healthy water



tohorā
southern right whale

paieka
humpback whale

parāoa
sperm whale

Me haere tāua ki te kaukau!

ika, ngohi
fish

kōura
crayfish

kōhatu, toka
rock

kirikiri
sand

papawai, hāroto
rock pools

tahatai
beach

takutai one
sandy beach

ākau
rocky beach

tātahi
to the beach or
on the beach

Let's go
for a swim!

Haria ko ngā maharatanga anake,
waiho ko ngā tapuae anake
Take nothing but memories,
leave nothing but footprints

Kia haumarū,
kia kitea

Be safe, be seen



Ko Te Ika-a-Māui tērā,
ko Te Waipounamu,
ko Rakiura rānei?

Is that the North Island, the
South Island, or Stewart Island?

WHY THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT IS IMPORTANT

Te Take i Mea Nui Ai Te Ao o Tangaroa

Nā te moana te taiao me ngā wheako o ō tātou tūpuna i tārai. Kei te noho ngātahi tātou ki te 15,000 momo karangatanga neke atu i tēnei taiao.

Ko Aotearoa te kāinga nui ki ngā manu maha rawa o te moana hurī noa i te ao. Ko tētahi o aua momo manu o te moana ko te toroa, 85 ōrau o te wā ka noho tēnei manu ki tai.

Our marine environment shaped the lives and experiences of our ancestors. We share this environment with more than 15,000 known species.

New Zealand is the seabird capital of the world. Our seabird relatives include the world's largest, the toroa or albatross, who spend at least 85 percent of their lives at sea.



Wai Māori

Fresh Water

Oranga Wai
Oranga Tāngata

Healthy Water
Healthy People

He aha ka kitea i te wai?

What can you see in the water?



piharau, kanakana
lamprey

tuna
eel

īnanga
whitebait



whio
blue duck

kōkopu
giant bully

Me tūpato ki te rere o te wai

Be careful of the current

mātāwainuku
underground aquifer

korio, tāheke
rapids

taniwha
guardian protector

kapowai
dragonfly

kōtuku
white heron

repo
wetlands

kōhatu awa
river stone

wai māori
fresh water

Mai i ngā maunga ki te moana

Mountains to the sea

kēwai
kōura wai māori
freshwater crayfish

Kaua e whakakino i te wai

Don't pollute the water

Kaua e taraiwa i runga i te kūkūpango
Don't drive on the riverbed

awa
river, stream

moana, roto
lake

Me kaukau tāua ki te awa

Let's meet at the river for a swim

hīrere, tāheke
waterfall

puna kaukau
swimming hole

WHY FRESH WATER IS IMPORTANT

Te Take i Mea Nui Ai te Wai Māori

Ka heke mai ngā wai i ngā awa kōpaka, i te ua, i te hukarere, i te tōmairangi ka māpuna ngā awa e rere ana ki ngā wahapū, ki ngā roto, ki ngā repo, ki ngā ana, ki ngā ngāwhā, ki ngā puia, ki ngā mātāwainuku. Kua whakawhirinaki tātou ki te wai māori mō tō tātou kanorau kāiora, te ōhanga, te mahi a te rēhia, te ahurea, te oranga anō hoki.



From glaciers, rain, snow and dew come rivers flowing to estuaries, lakes, wetlands, caves, geothermal areas and aquifers. We depend on freshwater for our biodiversity, the economy, recreational opportunities, culture and well-being.



Te Wao Nui a Tāne

Flora

Kia Tupu
Kia Hua
Kia Puāwai

To Grow
To Prosper
To Sustain

Me mātua whai i te ara

Stay on the track

ponga
silver fern

kōtukutuku
fuchsia

nīkau
palm tree

ara
track

whenua
land

ngahere
forest

Me hīkoi haere tāua i te puihi ā ngā rā whakatā?

Shall we go for a bushwalk this weekend?

ongaonga
stinging nettle

māra kai
cultivation and vegetable garden

Tiakina a Papatūānuku

Protect the Earth Mother

kōpurawhetū –
werewere kōkako
native fungi –
blue mushroom

rongoā
medicine

puihi
bush

rau
leaf

He aha te rākau hei whakatō mā tāua?

What tree shall we plant?

rautini
Chatham Island Christmas tree

pōānanga
native clematis

tātārāmoa
bush lawyer vine

tawhai
beech tree

pikopiko
edible fern shoots

kōtaratara
Māori holly

patupaiarehe
fairy people

Me mahara ki te whakapaipai i ō hū

Remember to clean your shoes

pūtu hīkoi
tramping boots

āniwaniwa, uenuku
rainbow

WHY FLORA IS IMPORTANT

Te Take i Mea Nui Ai Te Wao Nui a Tāne

He ahurei ngā tipu māori o te wao nui a Tāne i Aotearoa, he tūhāhā nō tōna tipu mō te hia miriona tau.

Ko te 80 ōrau o ō tātou rākau, huruwhenua, tipu whaipua ka kitea i Aotearoa anake.

The native flora of New Zealand is unique as it evolved in isolation for millions of years.

80% of our trees, ferns and flowering plants are found only in New Zealand.



Te Tini a Tāne

Fauna

E koekoe te tūi,
e ketekete te kākā,
e kūkū te kererū

By appreciating all our voices,
our different songs, we make
good music for the future

I kite au i te kōtuku
i te rangi nei

I saw a kōtuku today

ruru
morepork

kāhu
hawk

pīpīwhararoua
shining cuckoo

tīeke
saddleback

manu
bird

pīwakawaka
pīwaiwaka
tīrairaka
fantail

mohua
yellowhead

Waimarie katoa tātou
ki te kite i te tini o ngā
kererū i konei

We are so lucky to see
so many kererū here

Wow! Listen to the dawn chorus

Aue! Whakarongo ki te kōkī hāpara

pepeke
ngārara
insect

tuatara
reptile

mokomoko
lizard

He pūkeko tērā,
he takahē rānei?

Is that a pūkeko
or a takahē?

wētā punga
giant wētā

pekapeka
bat

pepetua
Archey's frog

pepetuna
pūriri moth

ngata
giant snail

ngaro huruhuru
native bee

WHY FAUNA IS IMPORTANT

Te Take i Mea Nui Ai Te Tini a Tāne

He maha ngā ika, ngā pepeke, ngā manu, ngā mokomoko me ngā poraka. Ko te hātaretare he kararehe/kīrehu kāore ōna tuarā, pēnā i te pepeke, te pūngāwerewere, te noke, te putoko, te ngata me te peketua.

He mea nui te hātaretare ki tō mātou pūnaha hauropi. Hei tauria:

- Ngā momo whakaaiai
- Ngā kaiota
- Ngā konihi
- Ngā pirinoa
- Ngā katirau
- He kai mā ngā ngārara, tuatara, ngā manu, ngā whakangote me ētahi atu hātaretare

New Zealand has many unique fish, insects, birds, lizards, and frogs. Invertebrates are animals without a backbone, such as insects, spiders, worms, slugs, snails and centipedes.

Invertebrates are essential to our ecosystem. They can be:

- Pollinators
- Herbivores
- Predators
- Parasites
- Detritivores
- Food for reptiles, birds, mammals and other invertebrates



BE PREPARED: OUTDOOR SAFETY CODE

Kia Mau

Te Tikanga Hauora ā-Waho

Me whakarite kia rawe, kia haumaru koe i tō hāereere mā te whakatakoto mahere i mua atu o te wā haere, me whai hoki i ngā ture e rima i raro iho nei.

Ensure that you have a great time and safe time on an expedition by planning ahead of time and following the five simple rules below.

1

Āta

**whakamaheretia
tō haerenga**
Plan your trip

2

**Whākina atu ō
whakaritenga
ki tētahi atu**
Tell someone
your plans

3

**Tirohia te āhua
o te rangi**
Be aware of
the weather

4

**Me mōhio ki ō pūmanawa,
herenga anō hoki**
Know your abilities and limits

5

**Kia nui te kai, kia nui hoki
te taputapu tika**
Take sufficient supplies



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Kei te hiahia ako anō?

Te Taiao



Department of
Conservation
www.doc.govt.nz

Te Reo Māori



Te Taura Whiri
i te Reo Māori
www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz

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KIA KAHA
TE REO MĀORI

Ko Papatūānuku
e takoto nei



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Ataubai

'Kia ita!'

Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori

MAORI LANGUAGE COMMISSION



TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa