



TE TIRITI O WAITANGI
TEACHER RESOURCES
YEAR 7 – YEAR 13



Welcome, educators, to Te Ahu Museums' history resource! As we journey together into New Zealand's past, we're thrilled to explore its rich tapestry.

Teaching history goes beyond facts—it's about nurturing critical thinking, empathy, and understanding. In our resource, activities on Te Tiriti o Waitangi are not just encouraged, but celebrated.

You'll find activities divided into Toa, Rangatira, and Ariki levels, catering to children's diverse needs and stages of development.

TOA

Toa activities are tailored for our youngest learners, offering engaging ways to explore Te Tiriti through hands-on experiences.

RANGATIRA

Rangatira activities encourage deeper exploration, challenging children to think critically and develop empathy as they analyse different perspectives.

ARIKI

At the Ariki level, older learners engage in meaningful discussions, debates, and research, empowering them to take ownership of their learning and navigate the complexities of Te Tiriti.

Through these activities, we aim to support children in developing a comprehensive understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, fostering informed and engaged members of our community and society.

As Hilda Harawira said at the commemoration of the signing of Te Tiriti in Hokianga earlier this year: “we must give out young people hope, not more anger and they need constant positive messaging...it doesn't come from the Government, it comes from ourselves.”

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

THE LOWDOWN

6 FEBRUARY 1840

In 1839, Captain William Hobson was chosen to be in charge of making sure New Zealand became part of the British Empire. He was told to talk with the Māori people and make a deal, called a Treaty.



The British Empire led by Queen Victoria (British Crown) was a huge group of countries controlled by England. It was like England was the team captain, leading lots of other countries.



Te Tiriti o Waitangi was signed in 1840, 6 February at Waitangi. Then it travelled all around Aotearoa New Zealand for Māori leaders to sign.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi had two versions: one in Māori and one in English.

This was to make sure everyone understood what they were agreeing to. In Te Tiriti (Māori version) the Māori chiefs agreed to let the British settlers live in New Zealand, while the British promised to protect Māori people, their lands and way of life.

The treaty was meant to create peace and understanding between the British settlers and the Māori people who were already living in New Zealand.



The Treaty of Waitangi was signed by a total of 43 chiefs on the 6th of February 1840 at Waitangi in the Bay of Islands. By the end of 1840 around 500 chiefs had signed including 13 women.



Te Tiriti o Waitangi is a significant agreement made long ago, emphasising mutual respect and understanding. Te Tiriti highlights the commitment of both parties to honor each other's mana.

Despite facing challenges, its importance endures as it guides us in fostering trust, mutual respect, and compassion. It serves as a blueprint for building strong relationships and promoting fairness in our interactions with all people.

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

TOA ACTIVITIES

Teaching children about Te Tiriti o Waitangi is a wonderful way to instil important values of respect, understanding, and fairness or manaaki, mana and aroha. Here are some engaging activities suitable for children aged 7-10 to help them learn about the Te Tiriti o Waitangi



Art and Craft

Provide materials like paper, markers, crayons, and clay, and encourage children to create artwork inspired by Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This could include drawing scenes from the signing, making replicas of the treaty documents, or sculpting symbols like the waka (canoe) or the Union Jack flag or making a cloak.



Storytelling Session

Begin by sharing the story of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in an age-appropriate manner. Use colorful illustrations or props to make it more engaging. Encourage children to ask questions and share their thoughts about the story.



Manaaki Activity

Cooking: Introduce children to traditional Māori foods or dishes that are significant to New Zealand culture. Discuss the importance of sharing food as a symbol of hospitality and building relationships, linking it back to the themes of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Discovery Questions

Storytelling Session

How do you think the Māori chiefs felt about the British settlers coming to live in New Zealand?
Why is it important to understand and respect other people's cultures and traditions?
What do you think the treaty was about?

Art and Craft

What pictures would you draw to show the promises made in Te Tiriti o Waitangi?
How would you make a model of the treaty? What materials would you use?
Why is it important to show the treaty in art?

Manaaki Activity

Why do you think it's nice to share food with others?
What foods do you think were important to Māori people long ago?
How can learning about Māori foods help us understand their culture?

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

RANGATIRA ACTIVITIES

For children with a deeper understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, advanced activities can provide opportunities for them to delve deeper into the complexities and nuances of Te Tiriti.



Rangitira Role Playing

Advanced role-playing activities can involve more nuanced scenarios and discussions. Children can take on the roles of different historical figures involved in the treaty negotiations, considering their motivations, challenges, and perspectives in greater depth. They can explore the implications of different decisions made during the signing process and its long-term effects on Māori and British relations.



Interactive Games

Advanced games can include complex treaty concepts like sovereignty and partnership. Players make strategic decisions, negotiate, and collaborate to mimic challenges Māori chiefs and British officials faced. They'll see how actions shape history and relationships.



Story Writing

Advanced story-writing prompts encourage critical thinking about the treaty's legacy. Children imagine alternative historical outcomes or apply treaty principles today, reflecting on its ongoing significance.

Discovery Questions

Role Playing

- How might New Zealand's history change with different treaty negotiations?
- Can Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles solve a present-day issue?
- What's New Zealand's future if all honor Te Tiriti o Waitangi promises?

Interactive Games

- What strategies did you use to negotiate with other players during the game?
- How did you decide which decisions to make during the game, and why?
- Can you think of a real-life situation where people have to negotiate and collaborate, like te tiriti negotiations in the game?

Story Writing

- How might New Zealand's history change if the treaty negotiations had a different outcome? Can you apply Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles to solve a present-day issue? What might New Zealand's future be like if everyone respected Te Tiriti o Waitangi promises?

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI ARIKI ACTIVITIES

For more advanced children with a deeper understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, it's crucial to provide engaging activities that not only reinforce their knowledge but also encourage critical thinking, empathy, and a sense of insight.



Outdoor Exploration

Allows children to connect with the natural environment while reflecting on the profound relationship between Māori culture and the land. By visiting local marae or exploring natural landscapes, children gain a deeper understanding of how Te Tiriti o Waitangi acknowledges and respects the interconnectedness of people and place. This hands-on experience fosters a sense of stewardship and cultural appreciation.



Debating

Offers an opportunity for children to explore different viewpoints and engage in constructive discourse, honing their analytical skills and ability to communicate effectively. By researching and presenting arguments for or against various interpretations of the treaty, children develop a deeper appreciation for the complexities of historical events and their ongoing impact on society.

Discovery Questions

Outdoor Exploration:

What did you learn about Māori culture's connection to the land? How can we apply Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles to protect the environment? Why is connecting with nature and understanding our role in caring for the land important?

Debating

How did the debate challenge your understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi? How did researching and presenting arguments deepen your knowledge? Can debates help us understand different viewpoints in society?

Aroha Circle

What insight stood out to you during our discussion? How did hearing different perspectives broaden your understanding? How can respect, compassion, and dialogue strengthen community relationships?



Aroha Circle

Aroha circles provide a safe and inclusive space for children to share their thoughts, feelings, and insights about Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Through guided discussions and thought-provoking prompts, children learn to articulate their ideas, listen actively to others, and engage in meaningful dialogue. These discussions help cultivate empathy, respect, and a sense of shared responsibility for upholding the principles of the treaty in their daily lives.

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI IN KAITAIA

Something very important happened in Kaitaia, 28 April 1840.

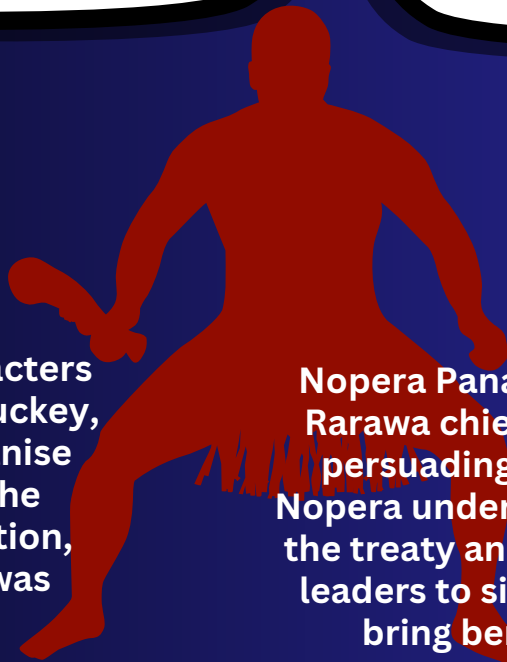
It was the signing of Te Tiriti!

Te Tiriti o Waitangi journeyed across Aotearoa after its signing in 1840. From Waitangi, it traveled to regions where Māori chiefs added their signatures. Eventually, it returned to north, making its way to Kaitaia, where Captain William Hobson fell ill. In his place, he sent Colonial Secretary Willoughby Shortland to oversee the signing

In April 1840, Shortland sailed with a British delegation on the schooner New Zealander, journeying up the Awanui River to Kaitaia. Upon their arrival, they were greeted by the people of Te Rarawa with a haka and musket fire, marking a significant moment in the region's history.



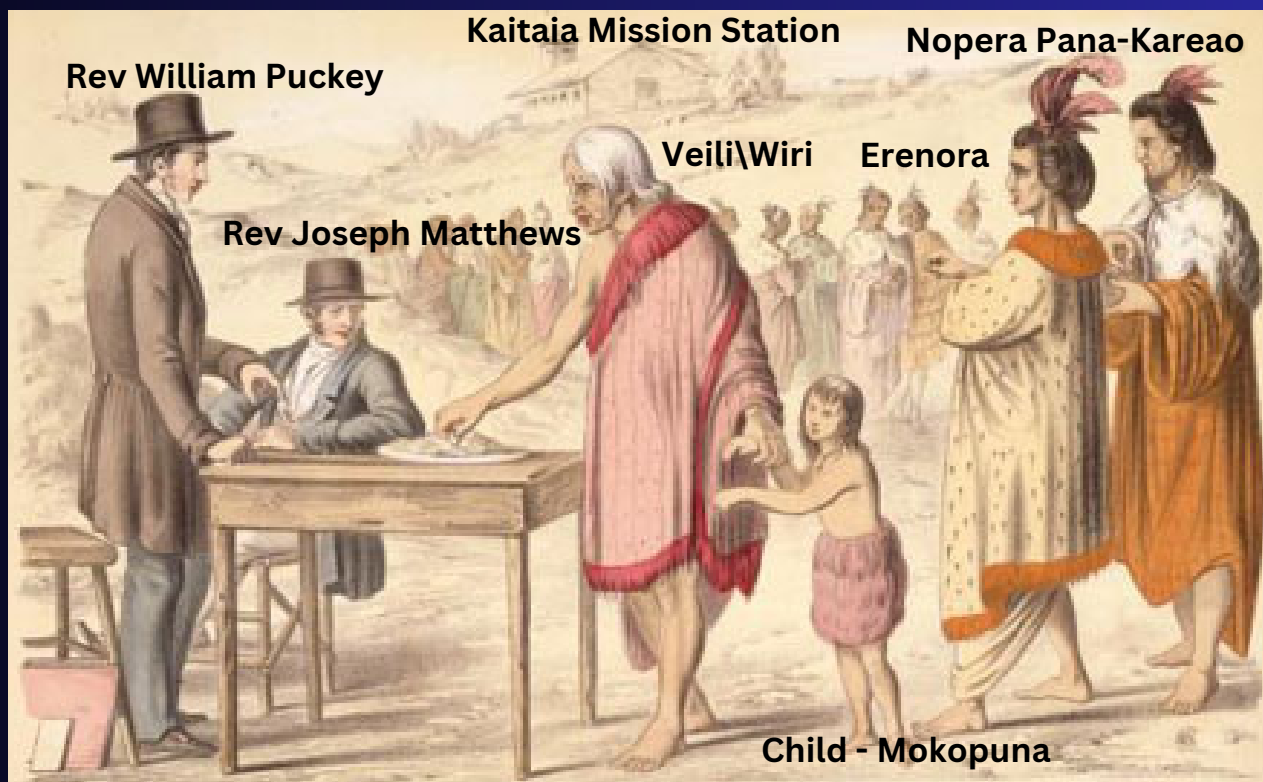
One of the key characters in this story is Rev Puckey, who helped to organise the gathering at the Kaitaia Mission Station, where the treaty was signed.



Nopera Panakareao, a respected Te Rarawa chief, played a crucial role, persuading tribal leaders to sign. Nopera understood the importance of the treaty and convinced other tribal leaders to sign it, believing it would bring benefits to his people.



Rev Puckey wanted to bring together Māori chiefs and the British officials to make peace and work together.



Erenora, Nopera's wife, was another important character. She was the only Māori woman to sign Te Tiriti o Waitangi in Kaitaia. Her signature showed that women also played a role in making important decisions for their communities.

TE TIRITI KI KAITAIA

28 APRIL 1840

THE LOWDOWN FOR TEACHERS

The Treaty was initially signed at Waitangi on February 6, 1840, with forty three chiefs from the Bay of Islands area endorsing it. While this date became the official authorization date, Lieutenant Governor Hobson understood the need for broader acceptance. He embarked on a journey across the north to gather more signatures from prominent Māori leaders, making stops at Waimate and Mangungu on the Hokianga Harbour.

Hobson's journey continued southward, but he suffered a stroke while engaging Māori in Port Nicholson and Waitematā.

During Hobson's recovery, Colonial Secretary Willoughby Shortland took charge of securing additional signatures. In April 1840, Shortland and a British delegation sailed to Awanui and then Kaitaia on the schooner *New Zealander*, where they were welcomed by a haka and musket fire by the people of Te Rarawa.

On April 28, 1840, sixty Te Rarawa chiefs met the delegation on the lawn and veranda of missionary William Gilbert Puckey in Kaitaia.

Kaitaia Māori had concerns about unregulated land sales and trade, and about the behaviour of British traders and settlers. They were also wanting surety that chiefly status would be intact or enhanced; and that Māori would be able to benefit from trade with the British. It wasn't guaranteed that all would sign the Treaty.

Nopera Panakareao had met with the British delegation the night before the signing. He had received assurances, perhaps disingenuous, about these concerns and also about the ongoing sovereignty of the Māori people. So when he spoke on April 28, asserting his right as paramount chief, he felt confident enough to address his people:

“Kō te atakau o te whenua I riro I a te Kuīni, kō te tīnana o te whenua I waiho ki ngā Māori.”

‘What have we to say against the Queen, the shadow of the land will go to her but the substance will remain with us’.

He urged the other chiefs to sign, and unanimously they did. There was an exchange of gifts, potato, kumara, pigs and dried shark from the Māori; blankets and tobacco from the British.

The Kaitaia Treaty signing was important. It added ratification and the strength of the Te Rarawa people to the earlier signatures. It was an important part of the north to add to the list of signatories.

The Treaty was signed in good faith by Te Rarawa and Ngāti Kahu rangatira like Panakareao and Tauhara and was only signed after there had been time to interpret the intent of Te Tiriti and to receive British assurances about that intent. In all 62 chiefs including Erenora signed Te Tiriti at Kaitaia.

However, within a year, Panakareao's viewpoint underwent a transformation. Unrest spread throughout the north, revealing the very concerns Māori had voiced before signing the Treaty. He reversed his earlier belief, now seeing that the substance had indeed shifted to the Crown.

The initial hope that the Treaty would establish order, facilitate fair trade, and uphold rangatiratanga was swiftly clouded by doubt.

TE TIRITI KI KAITAIA

TOA ACTIVITIES

Teaching children about Te Tiriti o Waitangi, signed in Kaitaia, is a fantastic opportunity to instil values of respect, understanding, and fairness, manaaki, mana, and aroha. Here are some fun activities for children aged 7-10 to prepare them for a visit to Te Ahu Museum and the Mission Station in Kaitaia.



Crafting Costume: Walking in our Ancestors shoes

In this activity, children will have the opportunity to create traditional Māori garments such as cloaks (korowai) and piupiu, as well as colonial clothing like top hats and Victorian costumes.

This hands-on experience will not only allow children to explore the cultural attire of both Māori and colonial settlers but also to reflect on the significance of clothing during the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi at Kaitaia.



Manaaki Activity: Culinary Experience

Children are invited to discover traditional Māori foods, integral to New Zealand's culture. Explore the cultural significance of sharing food as a symbol of hospitality and relationship-building, linking back to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

During the Kaitaia signing, gifts like potato, kumara, pigs, and dried shark were exchanged, highlighting the cultural exchange during treaty negotiations. Engage children in preparing a hangi feast to experience this tradition firsthand!

Discovery Questions

Crafting Costumes Activity

What aspects of Māori and colonial clothing did you find most interesting or meaningful?
How do you think wearing traditional garments during the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia helped to represent mana?

Manaaki Activity

Why do you think it's nice to share food with others?
What foods do you think were important to Māori people long ago?
How can learning about Māori foods help us understand their culture and way of life?

TE TIRITI KI KAITAIA

RANGATIRA ACTIVITIES

For children with an advanced comprehension of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, specialised activities can offer them chances to explore the intricacies and subtleties specifically related to the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia.



Creative Expressions

Allow children to express their understanding of the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia through various creative mediums such as art, poetry, or storytelling.

They can create artworks depicting scenes from the signing ceremony, write poems reflecting on the emotions and perspectives of those present, or craft narratives imagining the conversations and interactions between Māori and colonial representatives.



Aroha Circle

Create a structured discussion session where children can openly share their thoughts and feelings about the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia.

Use prompts and guided questions to encourage active participation and thoughtful dialogue. These discussions foster empathy, respect, and a deeper understanding of the treaty's principles among children.

Activate the Aroha Circle at anytime.

Discovery Questions

Creative Expression

How do the artworks, poems, or narratives created about the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia reflect different interpretations and emotions surrounding the event, and what insights do they offer into its historical significance?

Aroha Circle

During the Aroha Circle discussions about the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia, what were some of the most compelling insights or perspectives shared by participants, and how did these contribute to a deeper understanding of the treaty's principles and legacy?

TE TIRITI KI KAITAIA

HIKOI DAY OUT ACTIVITIES

Organise a visit to local museums like Te Ahu Museum, historical sites like the Mission Station where Te Tiriti was signed in Kaitaia to learn more about the context and significance of te tiriti signing. Encourage children to engage with cultural artifacts, interactive exhibits, and knowledgeable guides to deepen their understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its impact on the local community.



Te Ahu Museum

Explore the captivating world of Te Ahu Museum, where children can interact with taonga worn by the chiefs who signed Te Tiriti in Kaitaia. It's an engaging and tactile experience, where they'll be enchanted by the stories behind these treasures.

In the Atrium, they'll discover the importance of the seven carved pou, understanding their role in the community and their connection to Te Tiriti in an interactive way.



Kaitaia Mission Station

Embark on a historical journey as children walk from Te Ahu to the site where Te Tiriti was signed in Kaitaia, nestled within the old Mission Station where St. Saviours Church and Kaitaia Primary School stand today.

This scenic route offers a glimpse into the past, allowing children to connect with the rich heritage of the area where the treaty's significant signing took place. Along the way, they'll uncover stories of the past and gain a deeper appreciation for the cultural importance of the site.

Discovery Questions

Te Ahu Museum and Atrium

How do you think the artifacts and stories we encounter here connect to the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia? Looking at the taonga worn by the chiefs, what kind of leaders do you think they were, and how might their leadership qualities have influenced their roles in the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia?

Kaitaia Mission Station

What do you notice about the landscape and surroundings as we walk from Te Ahu to the old Mission Station?

How do you think the environment might have looked different during the time when Te Tiriti was signed in Kaitaia?



TE AHU MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Step into the enchanting world of Te Ahu Museum and embark on a journey through time and culture. Children will have the unique opportunity to not only see but also touch and engage with significant taonga (treasures) that hold deep historical and cultural significance.

Korowai o Tauhara (Ngati Kahu): Experience the elegance and craftsmanship of the korowai (cloak) worn by Tauhara, a prominent figure from Ngati Kahu who was one of the signatories of Te Tiriti (The Treaty) in Kaitaia. Children will learn about the intricate weaving techniques and the symbolic meanings behind each pattern and color.

Hei Tiki o Nopera Kareao (Te Rarawa): Delve into the world of Te Rarawa culture as you discover the hei tiki worn by Nopera Kareao, another esteemed signatory of Te Tiriti. Through hands-on exploration, children will feel the smooth contours of the hei tiki and learn about its significance as a symbol of prestige and heritage.

Atrium Adventure: In the heart of the Te Ahu Center lies the Atrium, where children will encounter the towering pou (carved posts) representing the diverse people of Kaitaia. Through interactive displays and storytelling, they'll uncover the essence of identity, pride, and mana (authority) within the community. Discover the inter-connectedness of these pou with Te Tiriti and understand their role in fostering unity and harmony among different cultural groups.

Te Ahu Museum offers an immersive and educational experience that brings history and culture to life. Through hands-on activities and engaging exhibits, children will develop a deeper appreciation for the rich tapestry of Maori heritage and the significance of Te Tiriti in shaping New Zealand's past, present, and future



TE TIRITI KI KAITAIA

ARIKI ACTIVITIES

For children with a sophisticated grasp of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, it's essential to offer captivating activities that not only reinforce their understanding but also foster critical thinking, empathy, and a zest for learning about the Kaitaia signing. Continue to nurture confidence and enthusiasm for exploring Te Tiriti's complexities and implications for learning about the Kaitaia signing. We must continue to nurture confidence and enthusiasm for exploring Te Tiriti's complexities and implications.



Debate and Discuss

Facilitate structured debates or discussions where children can explore different viewpoints and interpretations of the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia.

Assign roles to represent various stakeholders and encourage respectful dialogue as they debate issues such as sovereignty, land rights, and treaty obligations.

Encourage children to critically evaluate evidence and perspectives to form informed opinions.



Historical Role Play

Organise a role-playing activity where children take on the roles of key figures present during the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia. They can research and embody the perspectives of Māori chiefs, colonial officials, and other individuals involved in the negotiations.

Encourage them to engage in diplomatic dialogue and decision-making processes to understand the complexities of treaty negotiations.

Remember the Aroha Circle can be activated during any activity. Aroha circles provide a safe and inclusive space for children to share their feelings.

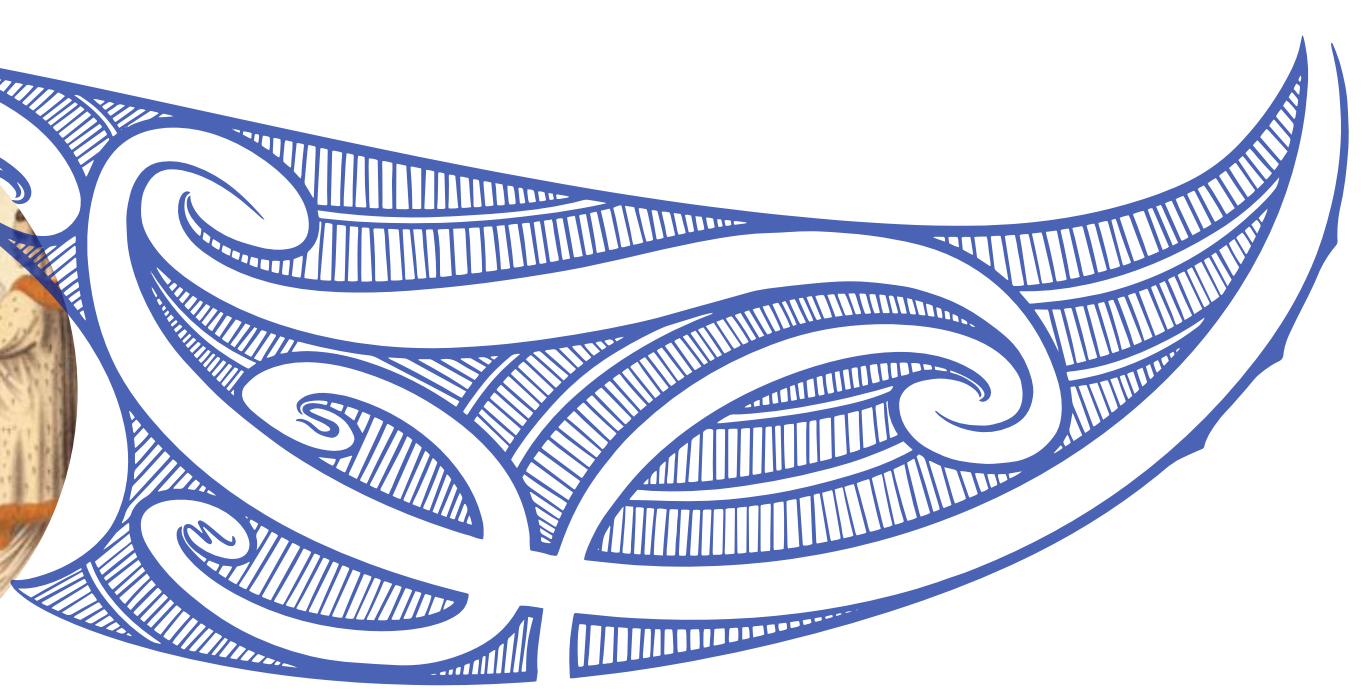
Discovery Questions

Debate and Discuss

What were the main reasons Māori chiefs and colonial officials had for signing Te Tiriti in Kaitaia?
How did the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia affect the relationship between Māori and colonial settlers?
What do you think were some of the biggest challenges faced during the negotiations in Kaitaia?

Historical Role Play

How do you think the perspectives of Māori chiefs and colonial officials differed during the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitaia, and how might these differences have influenced the negotiations?



RANGATIRA ROLE PLAYING: CLASS PLANNING

Objective:

Engage students in comprehending the complexities of treaty negotiations by embodying key figures present during the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitiaki. Make it fun and challenging by role playing in rhyme or rap (rhymes over beats)

Materials:

Historical context of the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitiaki
Role cards for each key figure (Māori chiefs, colonial officials, etc.)
Writing materials for note-taking
Instructions:

Preparation:

Provide background information on the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitiaki, including key figures and outcomes of negotiations.
Assign roles to students, such as Māori chiefs (e.g., Nopera Panakareao, Erenora, Tauhara) and colonial officials (e.g., Lieutenant Governor Hobson, Colonial Secretary Shortland).
Encourage research to understand perspectives, motivations, and concerns of assigned roles.

Role-Playing Activity:

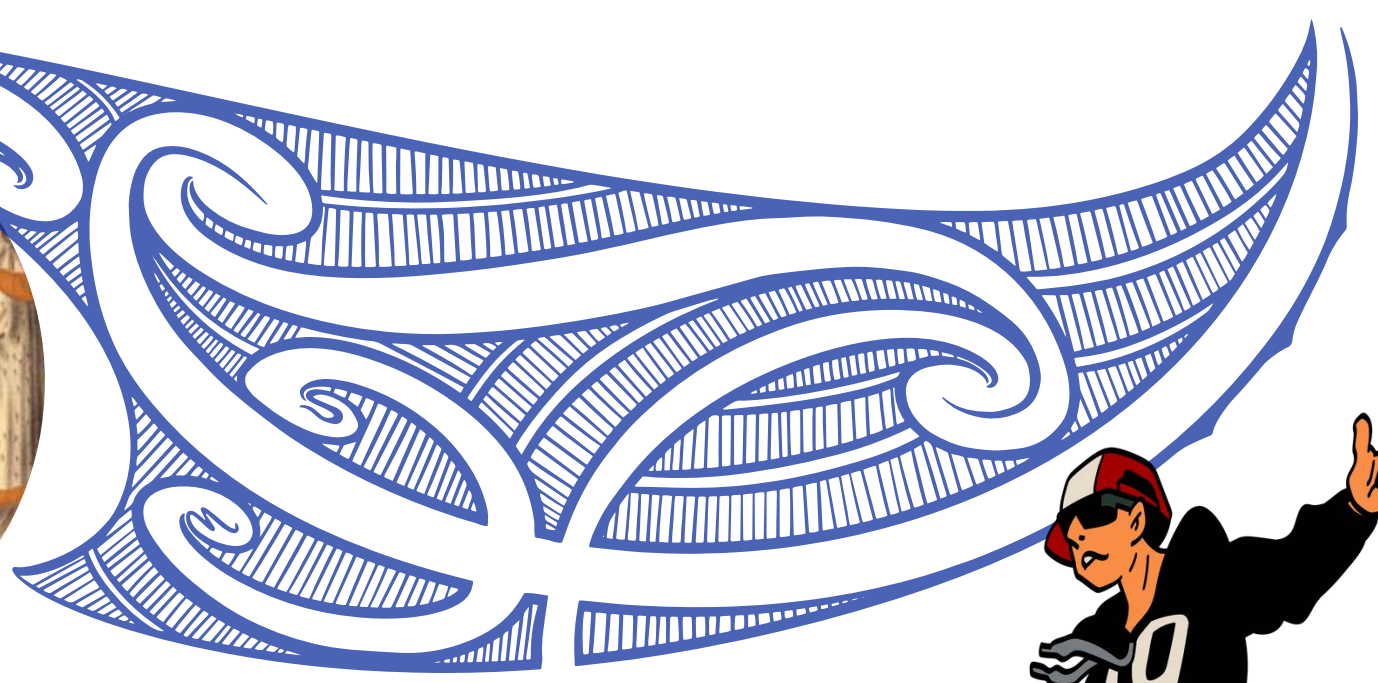
Set up the classroom to resemble the signing scene, with students in assigned roles.
Distribute role cards with character backgrounds, perspectives, and objectives.
Students engage in diplomatic dialogue, negotiating and advocating to reach agreements.
Facilitate discussions on treaty complexities, sovereignty, land rights, and cultural preservation.
Encourage note-taking for reflections on insights gained.
Debriefing:

Gather students for a debriefing session - set up an aroha circle

Facilitate discussion on observations, reflections, and challenges encountered.
Explore deepened understanding through different perspectives and negotiation outcomes.
Discuss treaty impacts and historical context for empathy and critical thinking.
Reflection and Extension:

Assign reflection papers or multimedia presentations on role-playing experiences.
Encourage further exploration of treaty negotiations in New Zealand and globally.
Provide platforms for sharing insights with peers for collaborative learning.
Outcomes:

Deeper understanding of treaty complexities through role-playing.
Development of empathy and critical thinking skills.
Recognition of historical context in treaty impacts on communities



RANGATIRA ROLE PLAYING: SAMPLE

The Treaty of Kaitaia Rap Off

[Beat starts playing]

Narrator:

Alright, tamariki ma, let's dive right in,
To the signing of Te Tiriti, where it all begins.
But we're gonna spice it up, make it fun and cool,
With a rhyme or rap, keepin' it fresh in school.

[Students get into their assigned roles, ready to rap.]

Nopera Panakareao:

Yo, I'm Nopera Panakareao, a chief of Te Rarawa fame,
I played a crucial role, in this treaty game.
Convincing my people, the Treaty's the way to go,
Believing in its promises, lettin' everyone know.

Erenora:

Hey, I'm Erenora, standin' strong by Nopera's side,
As the only Maori woman to sign, I took pride.
Representin' women's voices, in this historic scene,
Showin' we're equal players, in this treaty dream.

Tauhara:

What up, y'all? It's Tauhara, chief of Ngati Kahu,
Makin' sure my people's voices are heard, that's what
I do.
Standin' firm for our rights, in this negotiation spree,
Keepin' our culture alive, for all to see.

Hobson:

I'm Lieutenant Hobson, from the British side,
Navigatin' treaty waters, with the Maori as our guide.
Seekin' unity and peace, across the land,
With respect and understanding, hand in hand.

Shortland:

And I'm Shortland, Colonial Secretary in command,
Sailin' to Kaitaia, with treaty papers in hand.
Negotiatin' with respect, hearin' each concern,
Buildin' bridges of trust, at every turn.

Rev Puckey:

Last but not least, it's Rev Puckey, at your service,
Bringing folks together, with a message that's
purpose.
Peace and cooperation, for a brighter day,
In Kaitaia town, where history's made in a special
way.

Narrator:

So, kids, let's role-play and rap, with all our might,
Explorin' history's twists and turns, in the treaty's
light.
With empathy and understanding, we'll play our
part,
Learning lessons from the past, with creativity as
our art.

[Students engage in the role-playing rap,
embodying their characters and negotiating the
Treaty of Kaitaia with rhythm and style.]

[The beat fades out as the curtain falls, and
students reflect on their experiences, having fun
while learning about history.]



MANAAKI ACTIVITY: CLASS PLANNING

Objective

Introduce children to traditional Māori foods and emphasize the importance of sharing food as a symbol of hospitality, linking to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Engage in hands-on preparation of a hangi feast with community experts.

Materials Needed

Ingredients for traditional Māori foods

Cooking equipment: fire pit, aluminum foil, rocks, shovels

Utensils, serving dishes, educational materials

Activity Steps:

Introduction (10 minutes)

Briefly discuss traditional Māori foods and the cultural significance of sharing food as a symbol of hospitality and community.

Community Experts (10 minutes)

Invite local Māori elders or chefs to share their knowledge and expertise in hangi preparation.

Emphasize the importance of learning from community members and respecting cultural traditions.

Food Preparation (20 minutes)

Divide children into groups to prepare ingredients for the hangi.

Community experts guide children in proper preparation techniques, emphasizing teamwork and cooperation.

Hangi Demonstration (10 minutes)

Community experts demonstrate the hangi cooking process, explaining each step involved.

Children observe and ask questions about the cultural significance of the hangi.

Hangi Feast (40 minutes)

Begin cooking the hangi with assistance from community experts.

While food cooks, engage in cultural activities or storytelling related to Māori traditions.

Community members are invited to join the feast with the school community.

Feast and Reflection (20 minutes)

Unearth the hangi feast and transfer food to serving dishes - serve your guests (manaaki).

Children, educators, and community members enjoy the traditional Māori foods together.

Reflect on the experience, discussing what was learned about Māori culture and the values of hospitality and community.

Conclusion

The Hangi Culinary Experience provides children with an opportunity to learn about traditional Māori foods and cultural practices while engaging in hands-on cooking. By involving community experts and sharing the feast with the school community, children deepen their understanding of Māori culture and the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.



AROHA CIRCLE: CLASS PLANNING

Objective

Facilitate structured discussions for children to openly share thoughts and feelings about the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitia. Promote empathy, respect, and a deeper understanding of treaty principles.

Activity Overview

The Aroha Circle provides a safe and inclusive space for children to share thoughts and insights about Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Through guided discussions and prompts, children learn to articulate ideas, listen actively, and engage in meaningful dialogue.

Materials Needed

Discussion prompts or guided questions

Open space for seating in a circle

Activity Steps:

Introduction (5 minutes)

Gather children in a circle and explain the purpose of the Aroha Circle.

Emphasize the importance of respect, active listening, and sharing in a safe environment.

Guided Discussion (20 minutes)

Introduce discussion prompts related to the signing of Te Tiriti in Kaitia.

Encourage children to share thoughts, feelings, and insights, one at a time, while others listen respectfully.

Guide the discussion to ensure diverse perspectives are heard and understood.

Reflection (10 minutes)

Facilitate a brief reflection on the discussion, highlighting key insights and learnings.

Encourage children to consider how their understanding of the treaty has deepened through the dialogue.

Closing (5 minutes)

Thank children for their participation and respectful engagement.

Remind them that the Aroha Circle is always available for open discussions.

Conclusion

The Aroha Circle provides a valuable opportunity for children to engage in thoughtful dialogue about Te Tiriti o Waitangi. By creating a safe and inclusive space for sharing, children develop empathy, respect, and a deeper understanding of treaty principles. This activity can be activated at any time to foster meaningful discussions and promote a culture of inclusivity and understanding.

Another cool idea is to use the aroha circle to create a class treaty about how we treat each other in class and at school.



Teaching Te Tiriti o Waitangi is a vital and rewarding endeavour for educators.

By immersing students in learning about this historic treaty, we empower them to grasp the intricacies of New Zealand's history, culture, and relationships.

Through engaging discussions, activities, and exploration, we not only cultivate critical thinking skills but also foster empathy, respect, and a collective commitment to upholding the principles of Te Tiriti in our society.

As educators, let us continue to embrace this journey, knowing that by doing so, we are shaping well-informed and compassionate individuals who will positively contribute to our communities and beyond.

Kia kaha, kia manawanui

Whina Te Whiu
Manager of Te Ahu Museum and Archives