


Ki te hoe: Indigenising Spaces

Te Arapū Māori Whakahua

Alphabet & Pronunciation



Te reo Māori is the indigenous language of Aotearoa, New Zealand. As a taonga tuku iho (treasure handed down), te reo Māori is mapped onto the land and waterscapes of this country and is presented within this series of resource books for educational settings.

This series of 17 te reo Māori resource books “**Ki te hoe – Indigenising Spaces**” “**Preparing teaching spaces in using and teaching te reo Māori**” have been developed to assist New Zealand’s Teaching Profession towards meeting up to Level 3 of Te Aho Arataki Mārau – the teaching and learning te reo Māori in English medium settings (Years 1–13).

This pukapuka (book) provides a generic overview of what Te Arapū Māori (the Māori alphabet) consists of and some pronunciation directions have been included to guide your engagement as a learner of te reo Māori. A language learning plan template is provided so that you can tailor all 17 pukapuka in this series to your context(s).

Kia kaha te reo Māori – let’s make te reo Māori strong!

Achievement Objective:

1. recognise and use te reo Māori comfortably with correct pronunciation

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Te Arapū Māori

The Māori Alphabet

There are 15 letters in Te Arapū Māori opposed to 26 letters in the English alphabet.

- Ngā Oropuare – Five vowels: a, e, i, o, u.
- Ngā Orokati – Eight consonants: h, k, m, n, p, r, t, w
- and Two digraphs or blends: ng, wh.

a	e	i	o	u
ha	he	hi	ho	hu
ka	ke	ki	ko	ku
ma	me	mi	mo	mu
na	ne	ni	no	nu
pa	pe	pi	po	pu
ra	re	ri	ro	ru
ta	te	ti	to	tu
wa	we	wi	wo	wu
nga	nge	ngi	ngo	ngu
wha	whe	whi	who	whu

Ngā Oropuare – Vowels

a e i o u

ā ē ī ō ū

There are five vowels and can be pronounced 'short' or 'long' – the long vowel is marked with a macron. Pronunciation can be aligned to the following English words:

a: about far path staff

e: pear egg bed enter

i: eat tea bee sheep

o: pork or awful awesome

u: shoe boot you blue

a e i o u
Are there three or too

Ngā Oropuare – Vowels

a, e, i, o, u

Short vowel sounds

a: **a**bout

e: **e**n

i: **i**e

o: **o**r

u: **u**

ā, ē, ī, ō, ū

Long vowel sounds

ā: **ā**r

ē: **ē**d

ī: **ī**a

ō: **ō**r

ū: **ū**

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

a	e	i	o	u
a re	the r e	the i e	o r	u
ā	ē	ī	ō	ū
ā r	ē d	ī a	ō r	ū

Ngā Ororua – Two Vowels (Diphthongs)

a	e	i	o	u
aa	ea	ia	oa	ua
ae	ee	ie	oe	ue
ai	ei	ii	oi	ui
ao	eo	io	oo	uo
au	eu	iu	ou	uu

Whakahua – Pronunciation

aa	ae	ai	ao	au
bar	eye	the letter I	hole	Oh!
far	sigh		foal	
tar	tie			
ngā	tae	pai	ao	au

Whakahua – Pronunciation

ea	ee	ei	eo	eu
ear clear mare	deer there fear	say Kay eh	ear-or	ear-oo
pea	tēpu	kei	reo	heuheu

ia	ie	ii	io	iu
ear	e-ear	pea	e-or	Pew Phew
ia	mīere	pīrangi	io	whiu

oa	oe	oi	oo	ou
Or-are boar	square (no s sound)	boy toy	awful awkward	owe
toa	koe	koi	kōrero	koutou

ua	ue	ui	uo	uu
oo-are	oo-ear	coo-ee	u-or	oo
ua	hue	hui	puoro	tū

Whakahua – Pronunciation

Ngā Ingoa Wāhi – Place Names

Ro	to	ru	a	
Ō	tau	ta	hi	
Ao	te	a	ro	a
Ho	ki	ti	ka	
Ta	ra	na	ki	
Wha	ka	tā	ne	
Ra	ki	u	ra	
Ho	ro	whe	nu	a

Ngā Ingoa – Proper Names

Tā	ne	
Ma	ti	u
Nga	hu	ia
Ra	wi	ri
Me	re	
Awa	ru	a
Ho	ne	

Kupu Taka – Glossary

Te Arapū Māori	The Māori Alphabet
Whakahua	Pronunciation
Ngā Orokati	Consonants
Ngā Oropuare	Vowels
Ngā Ororua	Two Vowels diphthongs
ngā	particle/determiner The plural of te
tae	colour
pai	good
ao	world
pea	particle: perhaps, maybe
tēpu	table
kei	Present tense marker
reo	voice, language,
Heuheu	Proper Name
ia	he/she him/her
mīere	honey, golden syrup

pīrangi	to need, want, desire
Io	Supreme Being
whiu	to toss, throw, fling
toa	win, to be victorious
koa	joyful, happy
koi	be sharp, jagged
kōrero	to tell, speak, say, talk
koutou	pronoun – you (3+)
ua	to rain
hue	gourd, calabash
hui	gathering, meeting
puoro	song, music
tū	to stand
Ngā Ingoa Wāhi	Place Names
Ngā Ingoa	Names of people
Ngā Kaitito	Authors

Te reo Māori Language Learning Plan

Ngā Whāinga – Goal Setting

1.

2.

3.

Ngā Whāinga Paetae – Achievement Objectives

1.

2.

He Pūtake – Rationale

1.

2.

Ngā Rauemi – Resources

- Kaiako support
- Props
- Prepared teaching environment

Huinga Reo – Vocabulary

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Ngā Rerenga Kōrero – Sentences

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

He Arotake – Evaluation

- What worked well?
- What were the challenges?
- Who benefits with this new knowledge?
- How does this impact on your teaching?
- What outcomes are there for children?



Notes



Notes



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Ngā Kaitito – Authors

This group of wāhine have accumulated more than a century of knowledge of initial and teacher education, designing bicultural and mātauranga Māori curriculum. Their research has te ao Māori at the forefront as they live and breathe this in their daily lives with their whānau, tamariki and mokopuna. The wero (challenge) these wāhine toa put out to all teachers is to start indigenising your teaching and learning spaces by taking your te reo Māori to the next level – your professional responsibility.



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