

# Whakamahia

## Using te reo Māori



**NMSSA**

Wānangatia te Putanga Taurira  
National Monitoring Study  
of Student Achievement

This set of cards uses QR codes to provide easy access to reo Māori resources.

The coloured side of each card has information from the 2016 NMSSA study. The other side has a QR code that links to a relevant resource.

### **Suggestions for using this set of cards**

1. Lay all the cards out on a table, coloured side up.
2. Select a card that interests you.
3. Scan the QR code on the back of the card and explore the resource it takes you to.
4. Share what you found with your group.
5. Use the questions on the “Discussion prompts” card to have a conversation about the information on your coloured card.

# Discussion prompts

- What interests or surprises you about this information?
- How well does this information reflect your school's situation?
- Does this information prompt you to change your classroom OR school practice? If so, how?



**Games engage learners  
and support learning.\***

**19% of all Year 4  
students reported  
that they play games  
in class using te reo  
Māori “often” or  
“very often”.**

*Learning Languages 2016—Key Findings report, p. 60*

*\*2019 NZCER Report: Games, Gamification, and Game Design  
for Learning*

Downloadable books  
from Te Papa have  
games, pronunciation  
activities,  
word searches,  
crosswords, and  
stories.



**Games engage learners and support learning.\***

**At both Year 4 and Year 8 around 25% of Māori students reported that they play games in class using te reo Māori “often” or “very often”.**

*Learning Languages 2016—Key Findings report, p. 61*

*\*2019 NZCER Report: Games, Gamification, and Game Design for Learning*

The eight unit plans on *He Reo Tupu, He Reo Ora* contain ideas for games and activities. These include bingo, playing cards, and flashcards.



He Reo Tupu, He Reo Ora

**Games engage learners  
and support learning.\***

**17% of all Year 8  
students reported  
that they play games  
in class using te reo  
Māori “often” or  
“very often”.**

*Learning Languages 2016—Key Findings report, p. 60*

*\*2019 NZCER Report: Games, Gamification, and Game Design  
for Learning*

Popular games such as Bingo, Jenga, and Pictionary can be played in te reo Māori using the information provided on the *Akomanga* website.



Akomanga Papakēmu

**Karakia are used for a variety of reasons. In schools they can provide guidance and protection, bring about a sense of calm and purpose, and enhance wellbeing.**

**31% of all Year 4 students reported that they say karakia at school “often” or “very often”.**

This opening karakia can be used in classrooms or meetings.

## **He Karakia Timatanga**

**Whakataka te hau ki te uru  
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga  
Kia mākinakina ki uta  
Kia mātaratara ki tai  
E hī ake ana te atakura  
He tio, he huka, he hauhū  
Tihei mauri ora!**

A translation and audio for this karakia  
can be found here:



Māori ki te Whare Wānanga o Ōtākou | Māori at the University  
of Otago: Karakia—Prayers

Talk to students, whānau, and local iwi  
about other karakia that could be used.

**Karakia are used for a variety of reasons. In schools they can provide guidance and protection, bring about a sense of calm and purpose, and enhance wellbeing.**

**35% of all Year 8 students reported that they say karakia at school “often” or “very often”.**

This karakia can be used for opening or closing meetings or in classrooms.

## **He Karakia Timatanga me te Whakakapi Kaupapa**

Kia tau ngā manaakitanga a te  
mea ngaro  
ki runga ki tēnā, ki tēnā o tātou  
Kia mahea te hua mākihihihi  
kia toi te kupu, toi te mana, toi  
te aroha, toi te reo Māori  
kia tūturu, ka whakamaua kia  
tīna! Tīna!  
Hui e, Tāiki e!

A translation for this karakia can be  
found here:



He Karakia—Te Puni Kōkiri

Talk to students, whānau, and local iwi  
about karakia that could be used.

**Karakia are used for a variety of reasons. In schools they can provide guidance and protection, bring about a sense of calm and purpose, and enhance wellbeing.**

**59% of Māori Year 8 students reported that they say karakia at school “often” or “very often”.**

This karakia can be used before eating.

## **He Karakia Kai**

Nau mai e ngā hua  
o te wao, o te ngakina  
o te wai tai, o te wai māori  
Nā Tāne. Nā Rongo  
Nā Tangaroa. Nā Maru  
Ko Ranginui e tū iho nei  
Ko Papatūānuku e takoto nei  
Tūturu whakamaua  
Kia tina! TINA! Hui e! TĀIKI E!

A translation and audio for this karakia  
can be found here:



Māori ki te Whare Wānanga o Ōtākou | Māori at the  
University of Otago: Karakia—Prayers

Talk to students, whānau, and local iwi  
about other karakia that could be used.

To learn te reo Māori, students need opportunities to use all the ara reo (language models). Pānui/reading is one of these models.\*

**14% of all Year 4 students reported that they read books or websites that are written in te reo Māori “often” or “very often”.**

*Learning Languages 2016—Key Findings report, p. 60*

*\*Te Aho Arataki Marau mō te Ako i te Reo Māori: Kura Auraki, p. 24*

A large collection  
of Māori language  
e-books is  
available on the  
*Kauwhata Reo*  
website.



Kauwhata reo—Ngā kete kōrero

To learn te reo Māori, students need opportunities to use all the ara reo (language models). Pānui/reading is one of these models.\*

**8% of all Year 8 students reported that they read books or websites that are written in te reo Māori “often” or “very often”.**

*Learning Languages 2016—Key Findings report, p. 60*

*\*Te Aho Arataki Marau mō te Ako i te Reo Māori: Kura Auraki, p. 24*

***Tōku Kōhanga* board books can support the teaching and learning of te reo Māori. Each set comes with teacher notes.**

Free copies of these books can be ordered from the *Down the Back of the Chair* website.



Tōku Kōhanga Board Books



Down the Back of the Chair

To learn te reo Māori, students need opportunities to use all the ara reo (language models). Pānui/reading is one of these models.\*

**At both Year 4 and Year 8, a small proportion of students reported that they were “good at reading in te reo Māori”.**

*Learning Languages 2016—Key Findings report, p. 66*

*\*Te Aho Arataki Marau mō te Ako i te Reo Māori: Kura Auraki, p. 24*

The reo Māori  
graphic novels that  
are available on  
the *Āhuru Mōwai–  
Sanctuary™* website  
can be used with  
students who want  
more of a reading  
challenge.



Āhuru Mōwai–Sanctuary™  
Te Reo Māori Graphic Novels

**Learning vocabulary is an essential part of learning a new language.\***

**40% of Year 4 and Year 8 students reported that they learn to say new words or phrases in te reo Māori “often” or “very often”.**

*Learning Languages 2016—Key Findings report, p. 60*

*\*Te Aho Arataki Marau mō te Ako i te Reo Māori: Kura Auraki, p. 25*

*Quizlet* is an  
effective  
vocabulary  
learning tool.



Quizlet Te Reo Māori Resources

To understand and communicate in te reo Māori, children need to learn how the letters of the written language and the sounds of the spoken language are related.

**Students were asked to write the Māori word for “four”—whā.**

**Common errors were:  
fa, fā, far.**

This song is a fun  
way to learn the  
letters and sounds  
in the Māori  
alphabet.



Waiata Mai Alphabet Song (YouTube)

To understand and communicate in te reo Māori, children need to learn how the letters of the written language and the sounds of the spoken language are related.

**Students were asked to write the Māori word for “seven”—whitu.**

**Common errors were: fetu, feto, wheto.**

Songs like “A ha  
ka ma” can help  
with correctly  
pronouncing vowel  
sounds in te reo  
Māori.



Māori Alphabet/Arāpū (YouTube)

To understand and communicate in te reo Māori, children need to learn how the letters of the written language and the sounds of the spoken language are related.

**Students were asked to write the Māori word for “ten”—tekau.**

**Common errors were: takau, tikau.**

*Te Aka*, the online *Māori Dictionary*, has an audio function 🗣️ that allows users to hear the correct pronunciation of many Māori words.



To understand and communicate in te reo Māori, children need to learn how the letters of the written language and the sounds of the spoken language are related.

**Students were asked to write the Māori word for “ten”—tekau.**

**Common errors were:  
tekou, teko, teku,  
tekua, tekao.**

This video on blended vowels explains how to pronounce all 20 diphthongs in te reo Māori.



**Learning vocabulary is an essential part of learning a new language.\***

**Students were asked to write what “Titiro” means in English (Look/Watch).**

**A common incorrect response was “Listen”.**

Include vocabulary, such as whakarongo, titiro, and e noho, in an action-based Māori language version of Simon Says. A suggested approach is described in the last paragraph of the *Te Whāriki Online* webpage.



Te Whāriki Online—descriptive language strategies (scroll to the last paragraph)

**Learning vocabulary is an essential part of learning a new language.\***

**Students were asked to write what “Whakarongo mai” means in English (Listen to me/Listen).**

**Common incorrect responses were “Come here” or “Come closer”.**

*He Reo Tupu He Reo Ora* has a list of useful vocabulary for the classroom.



He Reo Tupu, He Reo Ora: Useful language for the classroom