

KURA WAITII

KOORERO TUKUIHO
BASED PRACTICE



Sustaining the future of our taiao, our tikanga, our stories
& our sciences through the lived experiences of our rangatahi.





KOORERO TUKUIHO

Aligning the paradigm to our tuupuna
maatauranga & passing that on to the next
generation.

Koorero tukuiho highlights important markers through time, that articulate when, where, what, how, who, and why at key points in our journey to where we are today.

It is in effect a longitudinal study of epic proportion.

The findings of which have been intentionally resolved and retained through generations of karakia, waiata, poroporoaki, haka, moteatea, puurakau, and the list goes on.

What governments often dismiss as cultural frivolities (aka myths & legends) we know to be science stories that provide clear & obvious levers which give us insight, direction, and (through whakapapa) an intimate connection to the taiao & our individual & collective roles within that.



Small insights into koorero
tukuiho based practice...



KARAKIA

The act of seeking permission to carry out an activity and in that process perpetuate an awareness of atua Maaori and the tikanga that is observed in those places.

WHAKAPAPA

Learning, seeing, and understanding the hononga between the different life forms, life systems, & seasonal transitions within the taiao.

MARAMATAKA

Observing & recording the repeating cycles of life in relation to the lunar cycle, which overtime contributes to a localised body of knowledge that can guide & predict.

WAIATA

When a natural grouping of learnings occur (as one example), and it has been resolved to point that demonstrates it has value for future generations, we record this in waiata and teach it to the next generation.

PUURAAKAU

Stories of shared ancestry that connect rangatahi to a deeper sense of identity and purpose... learning ingoa tawhito & te reo o te taiao helps to reveal important ecological indicators & characteristics.





"I THINK THEY HAVE A
REVOLUTION ABOUT THE
VALUE OF OUR
MAATAURANGA..."

HOTUROA BARCLAY-KERR





KURA WAITII

Te Toki Voyaging Trust



Kura Waitii

Kura Waitii is a programme of work developed to advance koorero tukuiho based maatauranga Maaori in environmental education – in both traditional and creative contemporary ways – and to develop career pathways for rangatahi.



Wai means water in te reo, and Waitii is the star that is connected to fresh water and all the creatures that live in rivers, streams and lakes.

Developed by Te Toki Voyaging Trust and funded by Waikato Regional Council, the programme was launched in 2022 and uses waka as a platform to deliver maatauranga Maaori in accordance with traditional river care practices of Waikato.





Delivery team

Turanga - Kaihautuu Waka

Project lead and Senior Facilitator

Danielle - Kairanga Ope

Project Administrator and School Liaison

Noenoe - Kaitaarai Rauemi

Resource Developer

Anna - Kaitataki Taiao

Reporting and administrative support.

The wider Te Toki whaanau provide expertise and support alongside our Kura Waitii team for the delivery of some parts of the program.



What does it involve?

WAKA - EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING & FUN

Engaging rangatahi in these tuupuna spaces by teaching them about all things related to waka and through their presence revitalising our ancestral practices in accordance with river care.

WHAKAPAPA - LEARNING ABOUT HISTORY, SELF & OTHERS

Connecting rangatahi to a greater sense of purpose and identity through learning about their tuupuna and awa and the roles fulfilled in protecting and caring for the waterways & places that are named in their pepeha.

TAIAO - ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION & SCIENCES

Teaching our rangatahi about all the different ways that the wellbeing of our waterways is connected and can be observed, monitored, and supported through our actions.



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Some example pages of the Kura Waiti
booklet



Resources designed to
stimulate conversations in
the homes of our rangatahi.



"SUDDENLY, THERE'S THIS TRANSFORMATION AND UNDERSTANDING THAT, ACTUALLY, THEY ARE DESCENDANTS OF PEOPLE WHO WERE SCIENTISTS, MATHEMATICIANS, BIOLOGISTS, ASTRONOMERS, AND MARINE ARCHITECTS."

HOTUROA BARCLAY-KERR



“

KI TE MOEMOEAA AU, KO AU ANAKE.

**KI TE MOEMOEAA TAATOU, KA TAEA E
TAATOU.**

TE PUEA HERANGI

