

Matariki in the night sky



Matariki is...

- to plan,
- to learn,
- to share ideas,
- to reflect on the past,
- and to celebrate the future.

Matariki begins 25 June

WITH CHILDREN/STUDENTS:

- Create a quiet space indoors for Karakia, Whakataukī, Waiata.
- Identify the Matariki constellation in the night sky.
- The time of year that Matariki lies in the dawn sky.
- The significance of this Māori calendar event in Māori life.
- Draw a plan for a spring garden at kura (school) and begin to gather seeds.
- Design a star map to show where Matariki lies in the night sky during different times of the year.
- Prepare a report to show how the Māori calendar is used and the key events associated with Matariki.
- Design greeting cards to celebrate the event of Matariki that incorporate whakataukī.
- Investigate the different stories and names from the other cultures that celebrate Matariki.

WITH WHĀNAU AND COMMUNITY:

- Prepare a shared class or school feast to farewell the old year and celebrate the new year.
- Plant a tree in honour of the new year.
- Homework activities that connect students and their whānau with their local community, eg, visit Te Ana Rock Art Centre, Mt John Observatory, local Museum, Libraries, etc.

USEFUL LINKS:

- Te Iwa o Matariki - Puka Ngohe: <https://www.twoa.ac.nz/landing/Te-Iwa-o-Matariki-colouring-and-activity-book>
- Te Ana Rock Art Centre: <http://www.teana.co.nz/>
- Te Papa - Matariki Māori New Year: <https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/learn/matariki-maori-new-year>
- NZ History Online - Matariki Māori New Year: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/classroom/matariki-maori-new-year>
- WAVE Resources include: Celebrating Matariki; Matariki; Matariki - the Māori New Year; The Seven Stars of Matariki.

