



Matariki

Pukapuka mahi
Activity book

Traditionally, Māori celebrate the start of a new year in mid-winter (May-June).

The new year begins on the first new moon after the star cluster Matariki rises in the eastern sky. That's why the Māori new year is called Matariki.

Matariki is a time to gather with **whānau** (family) and friends to reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and plan for the future.

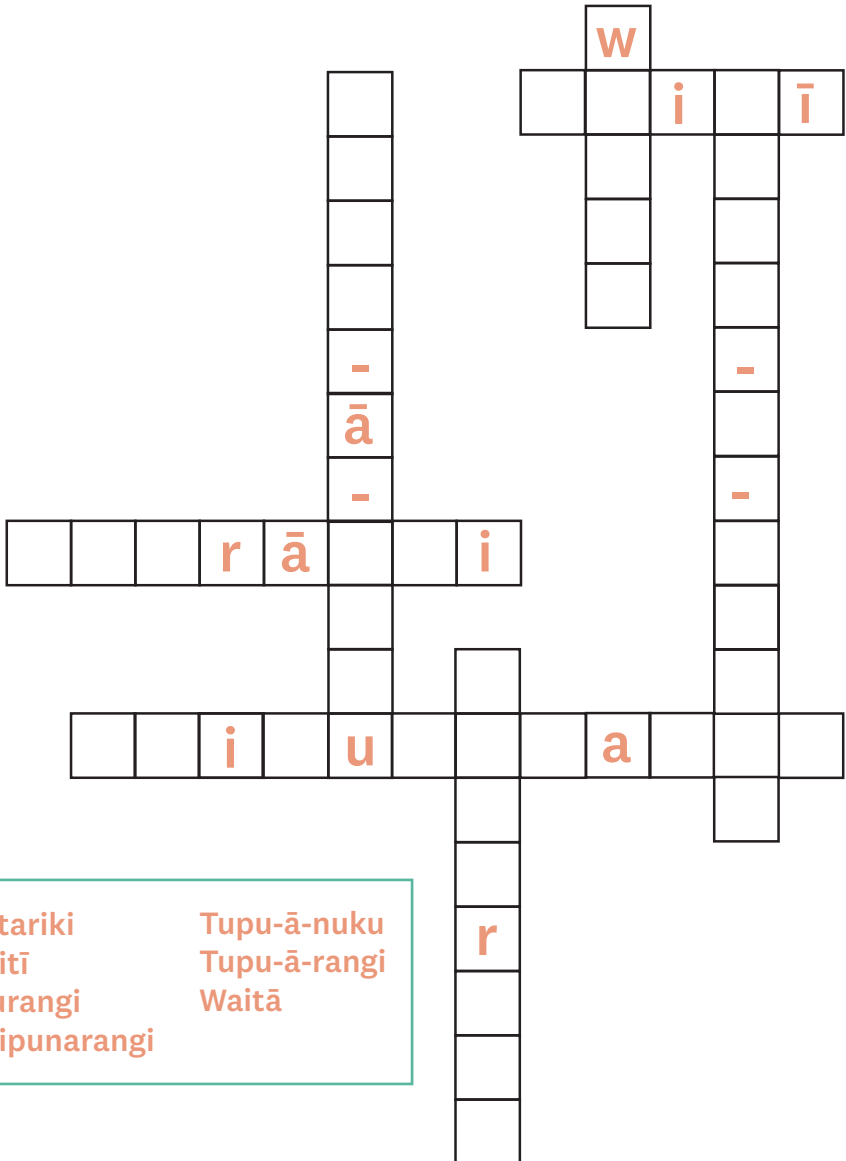
This activity book will focus on six themes important during this time of year.

1. **whetū** stars
2. **maramataka** the lunar calendar
3. **kōrero** stories
4. **kai** food
5. **whenua** land
6. **whānau** family



1. The star cluster Matariki takes its name from the central star. One of the most popular **iwi** (tribe) stories is that the central star represents a **whaea** (mother) surrounded by her six daughters.

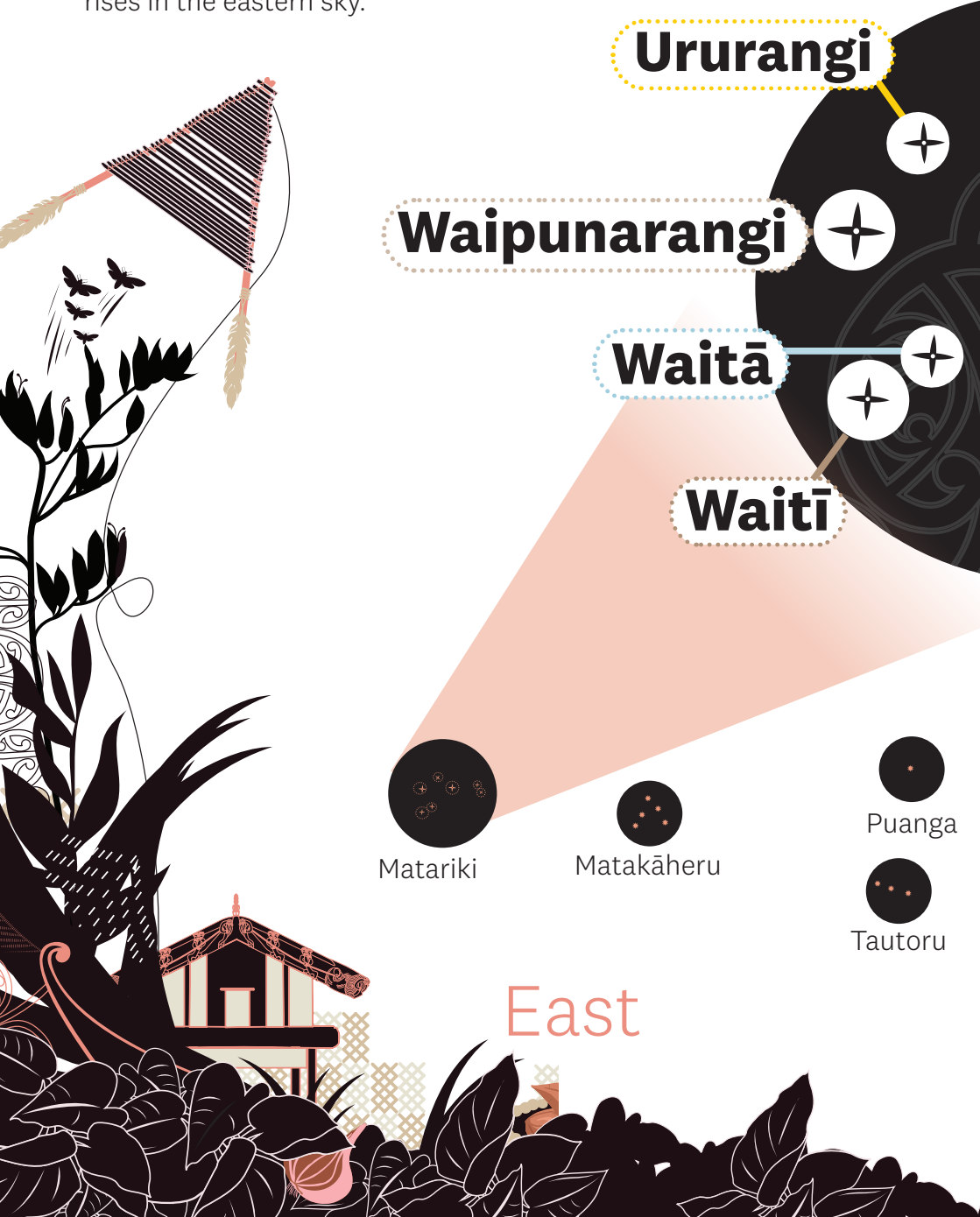
Fill in the crossword with the names of the seven stars.



Matariki
Waiti
Ururangi
Waipunarangi

Tupu-ā-nuku
Tupu-ā-rangi
Waitā

The Matariki star cluster
rises in the eastern sky.



Ururangi

Waipunarangi

Waitā

Waitī

Matariki

Matakāheru

Puanga

Tauru

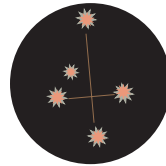
East

Tupu-ā-rangi

Tupu-ā-nuku

Matariki

South



Māhutonga



Hinetakurua

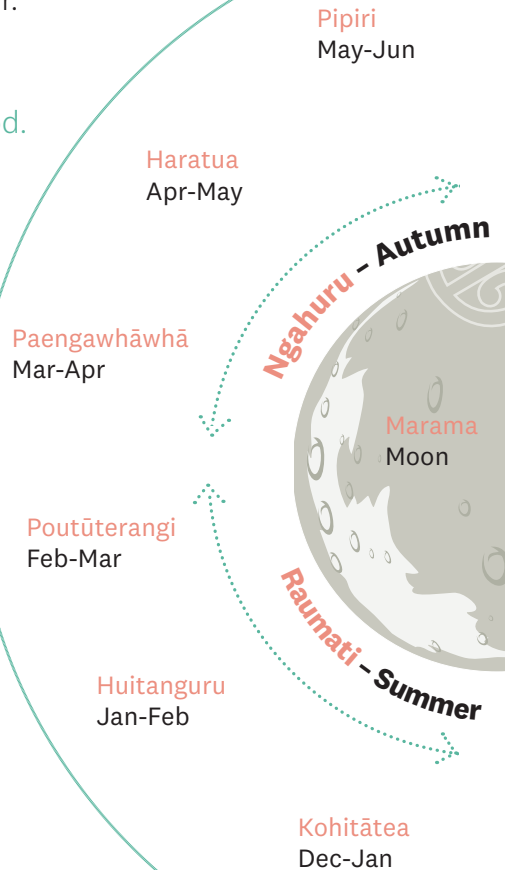


2. The Māori calendar year is guided by the stars and the moon.

As Matariki rises to start the new year, the new lunar (moon) calendar begins. This is called the **Maramataka** (the turning of the moon).

Time to gather and store food for winter.
Traditionally food would be kept in a
pātaka – a store house with legs.
Draw where you would store all this food.

The sun is warm and birds are
now nesting in flowering trees.
Draw your special summer spot.



It's really cold.

Draw a picture of you and your **whānau**
(family) gathered around a fire telling stories.

Hōngongoi
Jun-Jul

Hereturikōkā
Jul-Aug

Mahuru
Aug-Sep

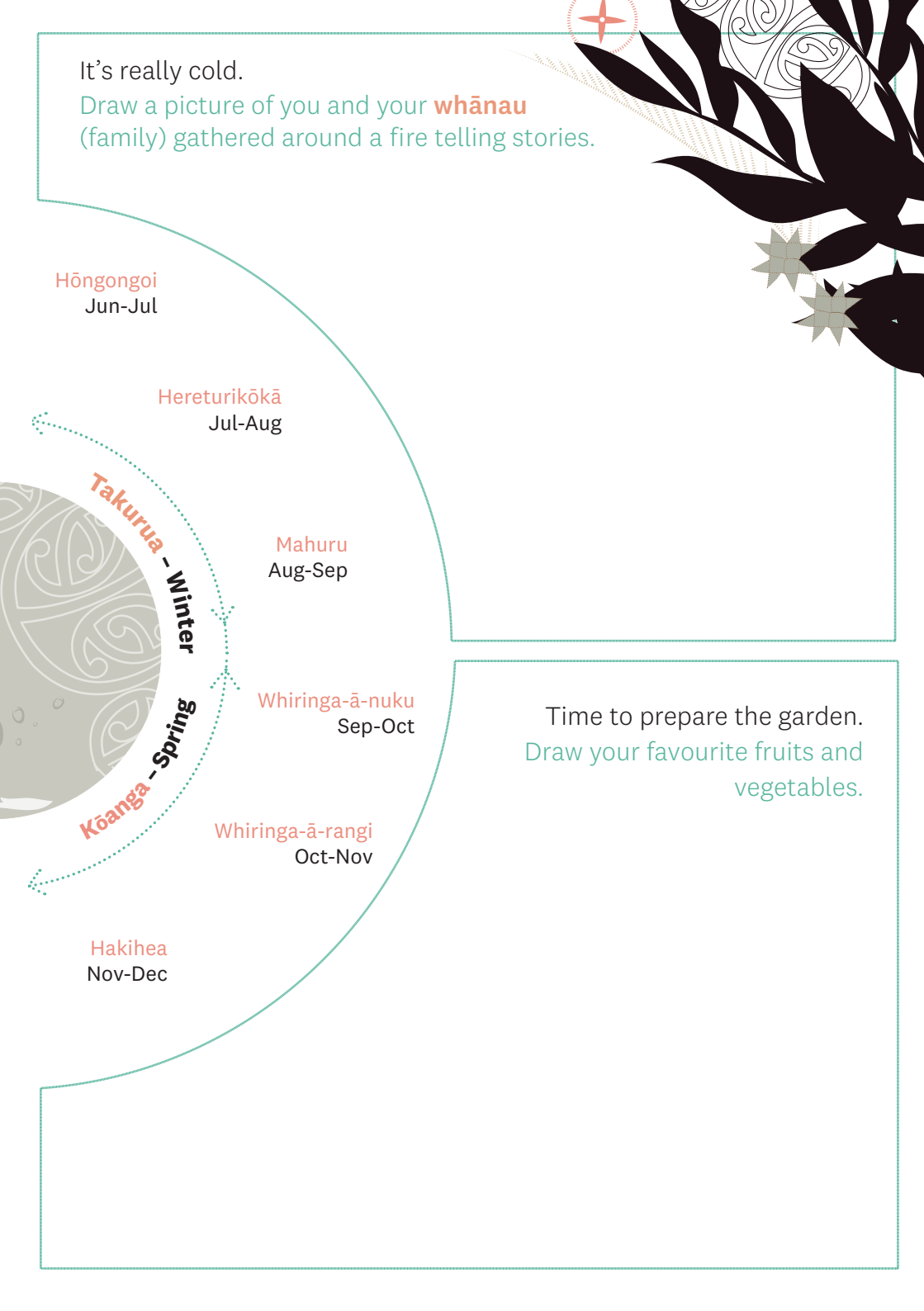
Whiringa-ā-nuku
Sep-Oct

Whiringa-ā-rangi
Oct-Nov

Hakihea
Nov-Dec

Takurua - Winter
Kōanga - Spring

Time to prepare the garden.
Draw your favourite fruits and
vegetables.



3. Matariki is a time to have fun with your **whānau** (family) and share stories.

Use the **kupu** (words) opposite and fill in the blanks to make your own story.

One day I decided to go to the _____. I invited
my good friends the _____ and the _____.

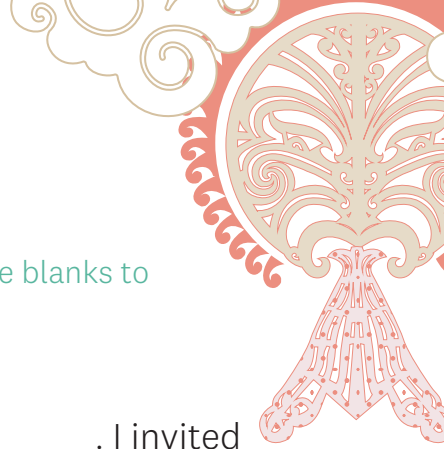
“That sounds fun!” they said.

It was a long way so we travelled by _____. By the
time we got there _____ was very hungry so he
ate _____!

I felt _____ so I decided to go to the _____.

I saw a _____ there which was very cool.

On my next trip I think I’ll visit _____ and take
_____.



hipi



pāpaka



tohorā



taika



mokonui



āporo



aihikirīmi



hanawīti



whare hokohoko



marama



maunga



tātahi



waka



pahikara



rererangi



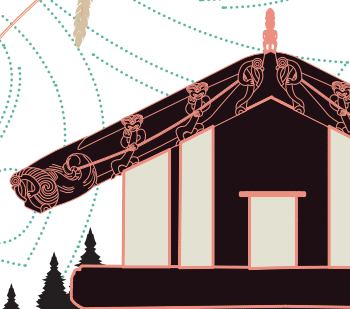
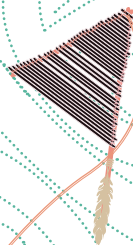
riri



harikoa

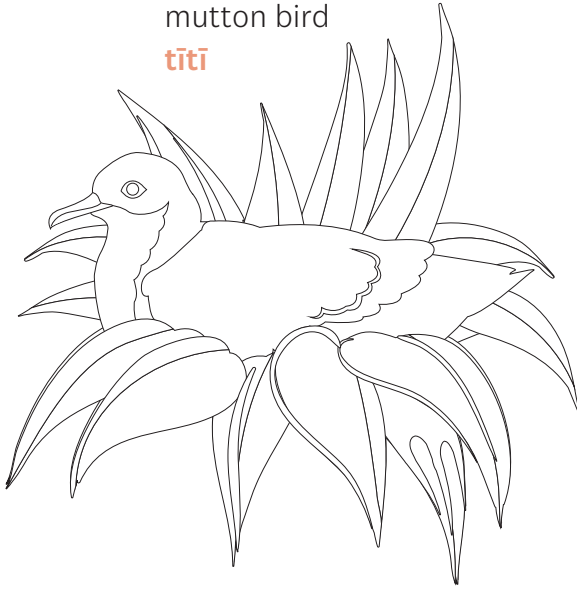


hiamoe



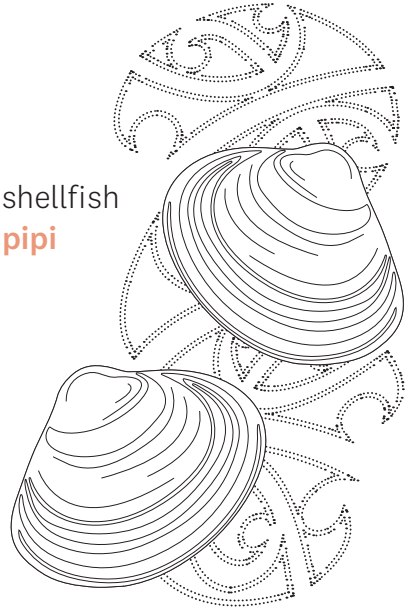
mutton bird

tītī

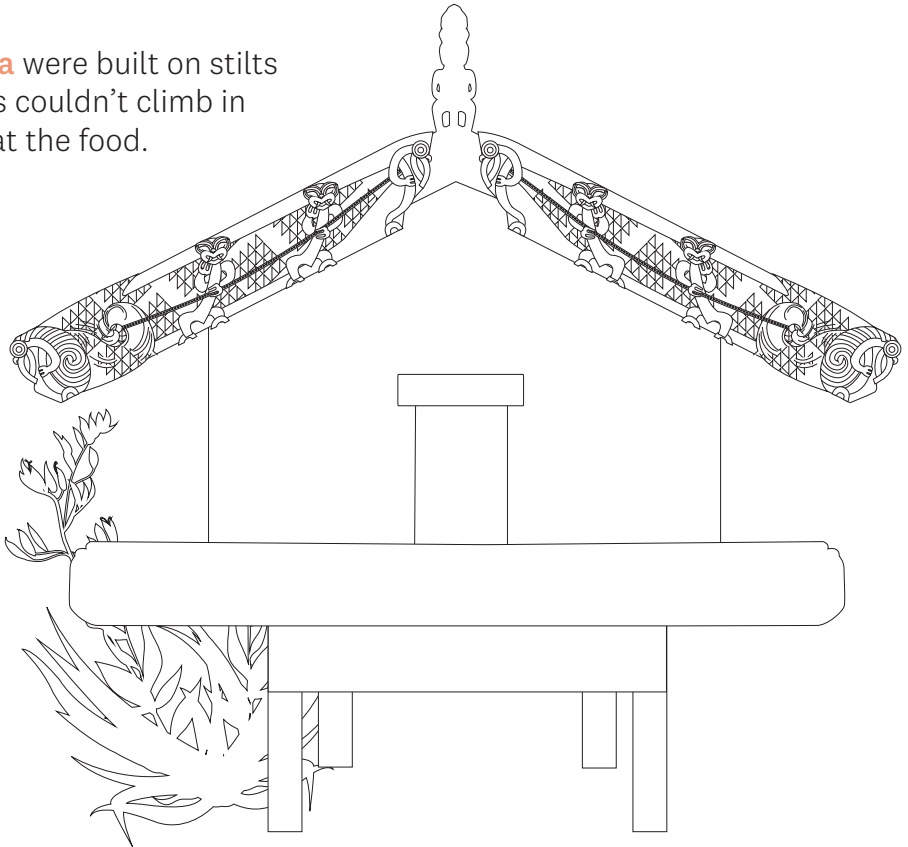


shellfish

pipi

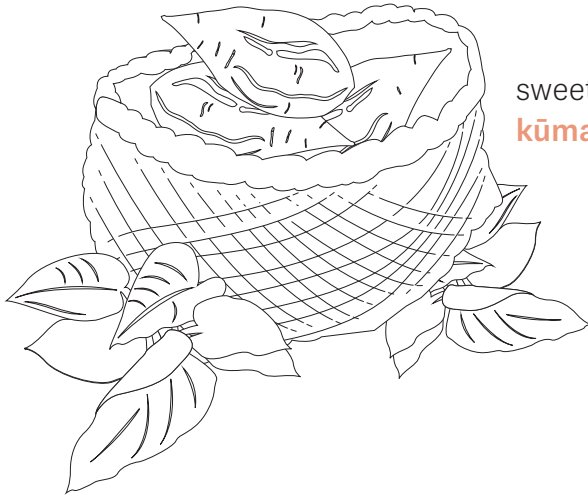


Pātaka were built on stilts
so rats couldn't climb in
and eat the food.

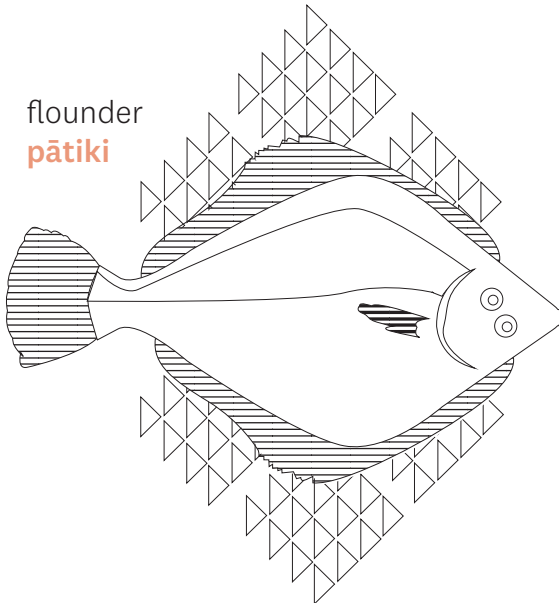


4. Kai (food) is an important part of Matariki. Winter is a time to share kai from the **pātaka** (storehouses), harvested from past seasons.

Colour in the pictures to see what **kai** was stored in the **pātaka**.



sweet potato
kūmara



flounder
pātiki



seaweed
karengo

5. Because the **pātaka** (storehouses) are full, this frees up time to spend with **whānau** (family). Matariki is a time to think about those who support you and the land that sustains us.

Find the words that relate to these themes in the word search.

awa
waka
maunga



moana
tamanuiterā
rangi



whare
whānau
rākau

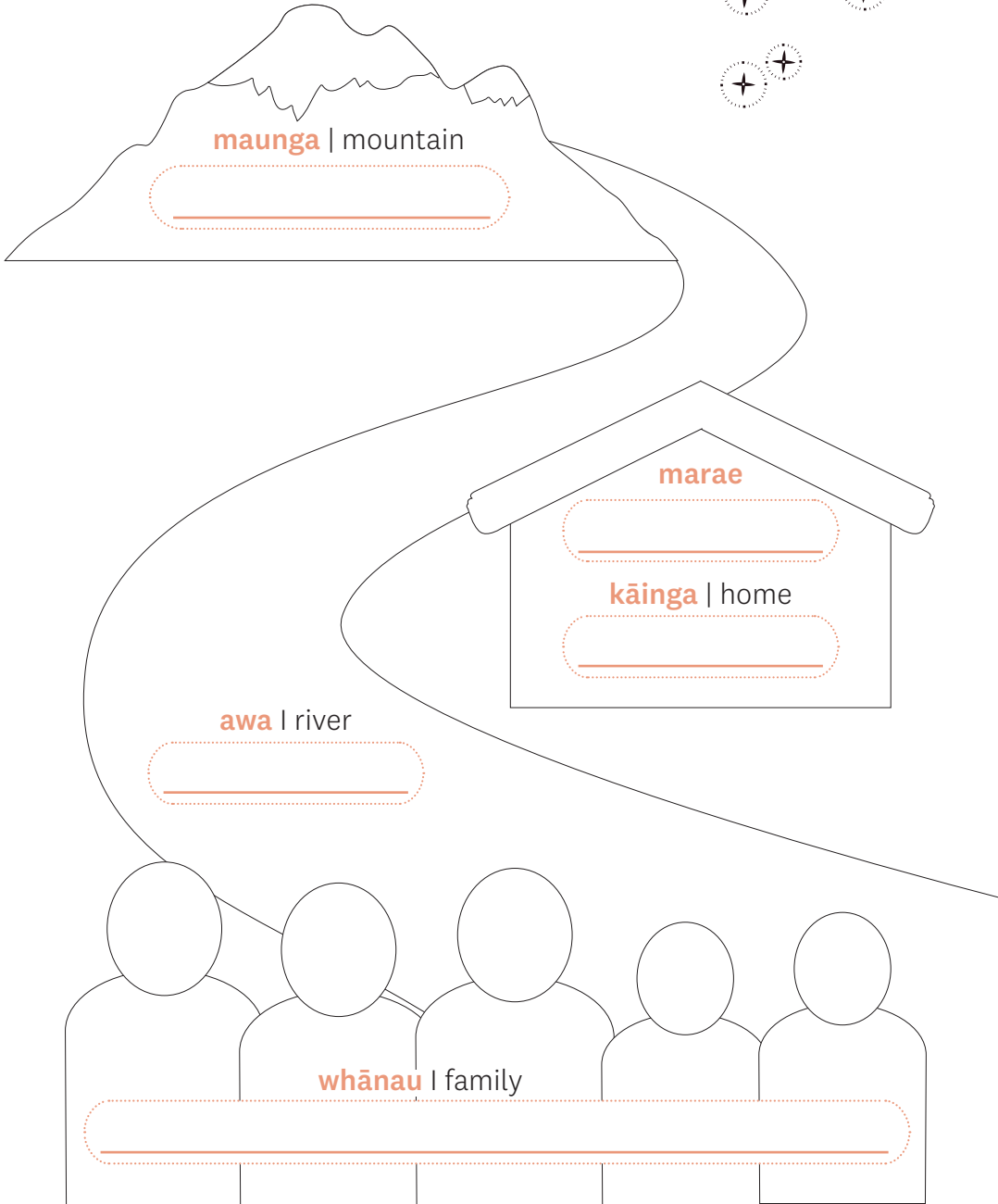
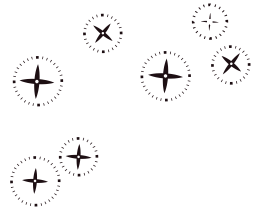


ika
manu
kūmara



k	ā	k	ā	a	w	a	i	o	ē	ā	r
u	p	ū	i	ō	r	ng	ē	k	h	r	a
r	ā	m	ē	p	r	ā	k	a	u	w	n
wh	o	a	w	ā	a	k	a	w	k	i	g
ā	e	r	a	k	e	ng	r	m	a	t	i
n	w	a	k	ā	u	r	k	i	t	e	m
a	ī	w	a	a	a	a	a	k	r	ā	i
u	h	a	m	w	n	a	k	a	wh	e	n
ō	i	p	o	a	k	ō	wh	k	ō	r	p
ng	h	ē	o	w	k	r	t	ū	ī	ū	u
t	a	m	a	n	u	i	t	e	r	ā	n
w	ē	t	k	e	a	k	e	r	e	r	a
r	e	o	a	i	t	a	r	m	ō	ng	m

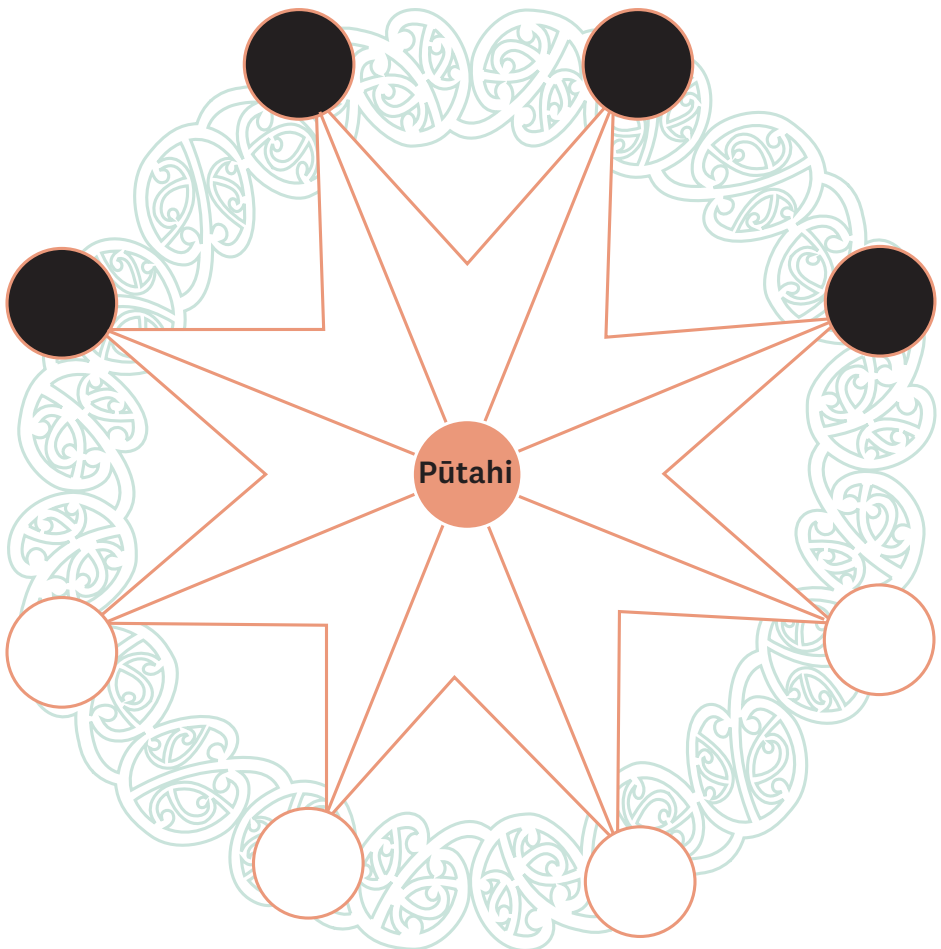
6. Thinking about the land around you and your **whānau** (family). Fill in the gaps so that it relates to you.



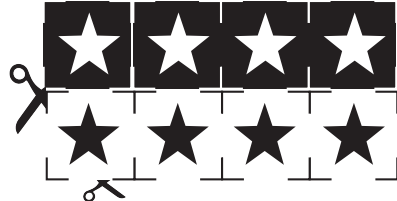
7. Matariki is about having fun. Learn how to play **Mū Tōrere** with your **whānau** (family).

You may need a **pakeke** (grown up) to help you learn to play.

The aim of this two-player game is to block your opponent so they can't move.



Cut out the 8 squares to use as counters to play **Mū Tōrere**.

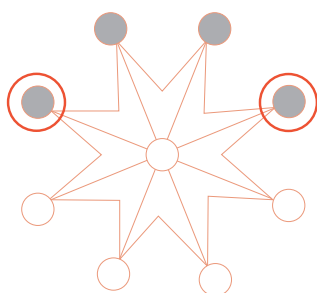


How to play

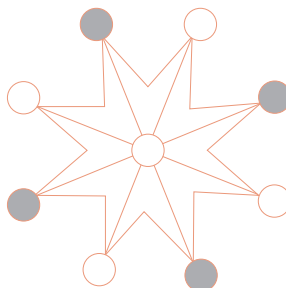
Place the **pango** (black) and **mā** (white) playing pieces on the board as shown.

The **pūtahi** (middle) starts empty.

Option one



Option two



In option one, a black counter in one of the red rings moves to the middle first. In option two, any counter can move to the middle first. Players then take turns making their move.

Ways to move

1. You can move your counter to an empty space either side of the counter or to the middle.
2. Pieces can't leap over each other.
3. There are no captures in this game.

Winner

The game ends when one player is blocked and can't move.

You should swap colours for the next game so that you both get a chance to move first.



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