

The Treaty of Waitangi

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

A founding document is a legal document which establishes or sets up a country or organisation.

The Treaty of Waitangi is the founding document of New Zealand. It is an agreement, an exchange of promises, between the British Crown and about 500 Māori rangatira (chiefs).

With the arrival of many different nations to New Zealand, the British Crown needed to secure their interest in being the highest recognised authority of New Zealand. This would enable them to protect their trading interests and challenge the incoming French from gaining power.



Lieutenant-Governor William Hobson began writing the Treaty with advice from James Busby. The Treaty was translated by Henry Williams and his son in one day. The Treaty was written in both English and Māori, but the translations were not exactly the same.



Several copies of the Treaty were drafted in order to send throughout New Zealand to be signed by chiefs around the country.

Many Māori didn't speak English at the time, which meant that both versions of the Treaty were interpreted differently.

The Māori translation of the Treaty was signed on the 6th of February, 1840, by about 40 chiefs at Waitangi, in the Bay of Islands. The first chief to sign the Māori translation of the Treaty was Hone Heke.

Many other chiefs signed the Treaty when it reached them throughout the country. This process took several months.

Week 2

WALTs:

- Set our books out using the correct format for the date and adding new material tidily.
- Read for meaning and answer questions as evidence that we understood what we read.
- Complete the first Reading Plus assessment task online
- Accurately locate and mark locations on a NZ map
- Discuss purpose of a pepeha.
- Use the 'Think, pair, share' strategy to list items of significance for you and your family.
- Select words/images to design a visual pepeha
- Be ready to briefly share the meaning of your visual pepeha with the class/table group in week 3