

ĀKAU

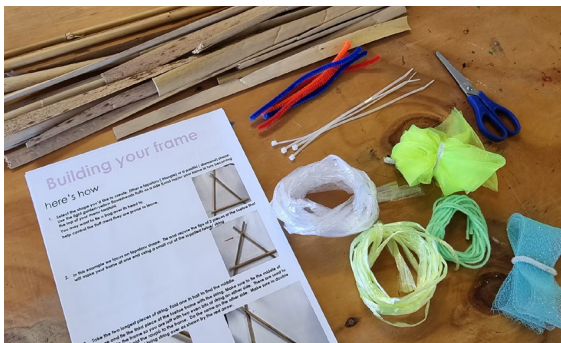
Kaupapa Matua

Design Activity

Manu Rere Activity

Nau mai ki te rēhia! Come and join the fun! We're inviting you to help us create a magical play-space filled with taonga taakaro at Waitangi in 2026! We celebrate Hine-te-rēhia and many other amazing Atua Māori who love to play, in a Māori play-space made for mokopuna of all ages! Tomo mai - come on in and let's play together!

Create your own traditional or contemporary Māori kite. Use your hands to build and learn new techniques that can be practiced in many ways.



Task 01: Building your Manu Rere frame.

- Using the bamboo sticks provided create a triangular or diamond shaped frame and tie the thread where they intersect securely using thread or wool.

Task 02: Covering your frame.

- Place your cover raupo sticks or other chosen materials horizontally covering the shape of your bamboo frame (Your cover sticks should be laid closely together).
- Measure and trim your chosen covering material so they just overlap the shape of your frame.

Notes: Refer to your material list for other covering options (Cardboard strips, fabric, raupo etc).

Task 03: Weaving your cover to the frame.

- Using the thread or wool in a cross-weaving method commence tying each cover stick horizontally starting at the bottom of the frame and continue tying each end of the chosen cover material to the frame.

Note: Keep the thread or wool tight while tying as you don't want your kite to be loose in any way.

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Task 04: Design your TOHU

- Tamariki are to research Māori patterns or tohu that best aligns with themselves.
- Practice drawing them on a piece of paper and explore with using one or as many of these patterns or tohu and duplicate them.
- Use your chosen medium (paint or coloured pens) to draw their patterns or tohu onto their chosen covering material.

They will choose from the following:

MANGOPARE - Strength and Resilience

KORU - Growth, Whānau and Life/Ora

POUTAMA - Journey, "Leveling up", Journey of Learning and Journey of Achievement

NIHONIHO - Maunga, Kāinga, Kaitiaki, Whakapapa, Your siblings, Parents and Grandparents

UNAUNAHĪ - Sharing of wealth, Sharing of abundance, Sharing to others who might not be as lucky as you, Generosity.

Note: Tamariki are free to use the provided stencil sheet or freehand their own tohu.

Task 05: Adornment and taura.

- Find some feathers to add to your Manu Rere.
- Bind to the frame ends using thread or wool in the holes you see at the end of a bamboo stick.
- Be creative by adding tails to your kite giving it some extra features while flying in the air.
- Finally add your bridle line and flying line to the correct places on your frame in order to get your Manu Rere up in the air.

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Tangible Outcomes:

- 1x Manu Rere made from Traditional or Contemporary materials

Materials:

- Bamboo Sticks (**Supplied by ĀKAU**)
- Coloured thread (**Supplied by ĀKAU**)
- Twine & Wool (**Supplied by ĀKAU**)
- Harakeke & Raupo rau
- Aute Cloth
- Dried Flax
- Cardboard strips (Optional)
- Fabric (Optional)
- Scissors & Box cutter knife
- Cutting board
- Paint and paint brush (Optional)
- Coloured pens (Optional)

Kaiako Notes:

- Read the [Little Natives Instruction Booklet](#) first to help students in the making of their Manu Rere.
- Guide students with using appropriate materials, using tools correctly and using the right techniques for each part of the activity.