

## Nai mai Haere mai 'Kōreo mai'

### A BEGINNERS KETE TO LEARNING BASIC MĀORI LANGUAGE

Aotearoa New Zealand is the only place in the world where Te Reo Māori is spoken as an indigenous language, this makes it a taonga / treasure unique to this country and deserves our protection and nourishment. Christchurch City Libraries/Ngā Kete Wānanga o Ōtautahi values the role it has in supporting this important kaupapa (topic). We encourage you to learn to speak te reo Māori and have created this basic kete to get you started.

#### GREETINGS

Kia ora	Hello/thank you
Tēnā koe	Formal greeting to one person
Tēnā kōrua	Formal greeting to two people
Tēnā koutou	Formal greeting to many people
E noho rā	Goodbye (from a person leaving)
Haere rā	Goodbye (from a person staying)
Hei konei rā	Goodbye (less formal)
Ka kite anō	See you again (informal goodbye)
Mōrena	Good morning
Ata Mārie	Good morning
Pō Mārie`	Good night
Haere mai	Welcome, come in, enter
Nau mai	Welcome
Ngā mihi nui	With best wishes

#### OTHER USEFUL KUPU (WORDS)

Aē	Yes
Kāo	No
Aua	Not sure / I don't know
Whānau	Extended family
Hapū	Group of whanau descended from the same ancestor
Iwi	Tribe, nation
Kaumātua	Male or female elder/s
Whakapapa	Genealogy
Rā	Day/Sun
Pō	Night/Darkness

E tū	Stand up	Turituri	Be quiet
E moe	Go to sleep	Kāti	Stop
E kai	Eat up	Tāihoā	Wait
Whakarongo	Listen	Kia tūpatō	Be careful
Titiro	Look	Kia kaha	be strong

Correct pronunciation indicates a bicultural awareness and respect for Māori culture. Log onto our bilingual signs website to listen to some pronunciation examples.

<http://library.christchurch.org.nz/HeManawa/BiLingualSigns/signs.asp>

## WHAT DOES THE MĀORI ALPHABET LOOK LIKE?

The Māori alphabet is made up of ten consonants and five vowels.



## WHAT DO THE LINES ABOVE THE LETTERS MEAN?

The lines are called macrons, they indicate the way a vowel is pronounced: Short or Long.

### Short sound



### Long sound



## CONSONANTS

Most sound similar to the English sound but there are several that need special attention and practice e.g.

*r* is very short and slightly rolled

*wh* is pronounced as *f*

*ng* is pronounced as the *ng* in the word sing

# Kōrero Māori give it a go