

# Matariki



## Ururangi

Ururangi is the star connected to the winds which determines the nature of the winds for the year.

Māori have always maintained a keen interest in the wind. Manu Aute or traditional Māori kites played an important role in traditional times in understanding the wind and its behavior. It is positioned at the top of the cluster.

### Sing waiata

1. [Purea nei](#)
2. [Tāwhirimātea blow winds blow](#)
3. [Porotiti](#)
4. [Pūrerehua](#)

### Whakatauki (proverb)

Hoki atu ki tōu maunga kia purea  
e koe ki ngā hau o Tāwhirimātea

Return to your mountain to be cleansed  
by the winds of Tāwhirimātea

### Kupu whakarite (metaphor/simile)

He rā kōpanipani, a cloudy day  
Used for days when the sun doesn't  
shine or can sometimes be used to  
describe times of gloominess.

### Ideas for learning through play

1. Learn the karakia [Whakataka te hau](#).
2. Talk about/find out about/draw/explore [Tāwhirimātea](#).
3. Read the pukapuka (book) Tāwhirimātea. Read and sing along to this catchy Matariki song celebrating Earth, sky, seasons and whanau.
4. Make and fly a manu tukutuku (kite).
5. Give tamariki a straw and a tray of sand and objects of different weights to discover that wind, like their breath can move objects around without being seen. Objects move differently - quickly, slowly, or not at all.
6. Blow bubbles (mirumiru).
7. Make a tornado (Āwhiowhio) in a jar. Fill jar almost to the brim with cold water. Add a few squirts of soap and a cap full of vinegar. Put lid back on then shake/swirl jar. These jars can also be used to calm (kia mauri tau).
8. Lie down and look at the clouds watch them move.
9. Discuss the relationship between Ururangi and Waipunarangi both stars relate to the weather, male and female.
10. Make paper planes and fly them.
11. Explore taonga puroro (musical instruments) such as [Porotiti and Pūrerehua](#).