

**NCEA Level 1 Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani Revised Vocabulary List 2025**

**Editable Word doc**

Updated NCEA Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Vocabulary Lists for Pacific languages were published on the NCEA Education website in February and March 2025.

Below is the revised Level 1 Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani Vocabulary List that should be used with students in 2025 (and thereafter).

The Vocabulary List supports teaching and learning and helps teachers understand the language appropriate at Curriculum Level 6. Language drawn from this Vocabulary List is used to create external assessments and may be used to support teachers when preparing students for internal assessments.

The vocabulary lists belong to the Ministry of Education. The list in this document has been **formatted by NZALT** to make it easier for teachers to print and photocopy for students. NZALT has provided two versions:

1. A PDF that can be printed and photocopied for students.
2. A Word document for teachers who would like to do further formatting.

This version of the vocabulary list is arranged **alphabetically (Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani to English)**.

Other configurations of this list (eg. English to Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani; by category) can be downloaded [here](https://ncea.education.govt.nz/learning-languages/te-reo-maori-kuki-airani?view=teaching).

Alternatively, you can navigate to the revised vocabulary lists by following this pathway:
ncea.education.govt.nz > New Zealand Curriculum > Learning Languages: Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani > Teaching

Teachers are advised to read the Introduction to the vocabulary lists (downloadable online, as above), as these contain useful context for teaching and learning, and for internal and external assessments.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **L1** | **Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Airani** | **English** |
| **`A** | `a`aki  | to pick |
| `a`angi  | to blow (wind) |
| `a`ao  | to wear |
| `ā'ea | when |
| `āiteite | same |
| `aka`aere  | to reign, to rule |
| `aka`āinu  | to let someone drink |
| `aka`aka | low |
| `aka`apa  | to accuse, to blame |
| `aka`oro  | to drive |
| `akaātea  | to remove |
| `akaepaepa | to celebrate, honour, dedicate |
| `akaetaeta uaua  | to exercise |
| `akakī  | to fill |
| `akakite  | to tell, to announce |
| `akakore  | to abolish |
| `akakoro`anga | occasion |
| `akamārama  | to explain |
| `akamata  | to begin |
| `akameitaki  | to honour, to praise, to thank |
| `akameitaki`anga  | to acknowledge |
| `akangāro`i  | to rest, to relax |
| `akano`o  | to place, to make someone sit down |
| `akaoti  | to end, to finish |
| `akapae  | to put aside |
| `akapoto  | to shorten |
| `ākara  | to look, observe, stare at |
| `ākarakara  | to watch |
| `akarongo  | to listen |
| `akataka  | to clarify |
| `akatano  | to correct |
| `akatere  | to steer |
| `akatika  | to agree |
| `akatū | to build, to stand |
| `akavā | police (n) |
| `akaviviki mai  | to hurry up |
| `ākono  | to take care of, to look after |
| `āmiri  | to touch |
| `ana | bridge, bow, arrow |
| `anga`anga  | to work |
| `āngai  | to feed |
| `āngera | angel |
| `apai  | to carry |
| `āpi`i  | to teach |
| `āpi`i ngutu`are | homework |
| `āpi`i tua toru | tertiary |
| `āpi`ipi`i`anga  | to practise |
| `apinga | thing |
| `apinga aro`a | gift |
| `āpōpō | tomorrow |
| `ara painapa | pineapple |
| `ārāvei`ia  | to visit, to meet |
| `are | house |
| `are `āpi`i | classroom |
| `are pā`ī | bathroom |
| `are pure | church |
| `are runanga puka | library |
| `are teata | Cinema |
| `āriki  | to agree on, to welcome |
| `āriki kaingākai | Tablecloth |
| `ārio | Silver |
| `atu  | to compose |
| `ātuitui roro uira | Internet |
| `āua | Yard |
| `āua `āpi`i | school ground |
| `āua tiare/kai | Garden |
| `auro | Gold |
| **`E** | `e`eu  | to open |
| `ea`a | What |
| `ea`a ta`au | what do you have |
| `ea`a te tumu | why did you / what's the reason |
| `ēi | Necklace |
| `eke | octopus, diarrhea |
| `eke ki raro  | to get off, to get down |
| `emo`anga, `emo`anga tipōti, tārekareka | sport, a huge gathering to contest |
| `enua | island, land, piece of land, placenta |
| `enua `ānau, `ānau`anga | family island origins |
| `enua mama`ata | large countries |
| `epetoma | week |
| `ētu | star |
| **`I** | `īkoke | skinny, slim |
| `īmene | song, to sing |
| `ina | great grandchild, silver grey (of hair) |
| `inangaro  | to want, to love  |
| `inga, topa | to fall |
| `inika | ink |
| `inu | oil |
| `ipa`ipa | crookedly, to be crooked, to be out of line  |
| `iri  | to plait |
| `iri`iri  | to decorate, to introduce oneself |
| `iri`iri kāpua | workshop |
| `irinaki  | to trust, to believe, to think, to lean/rest on |
| **`O** | `o`onu | deep |
| `o`ora  | to spread out, to unfold (something), gift for a newly-wed couple |
| `oe  | paddle, oar, to row |
| `oire | village, city |
| `oki  | to go back |
| `oki`anga | on return, turn |
| `oko mai  | to buy from |
| `oko`oko  | to sell |
| `ongi  | to kiss |
| `ōpara  | to push away |
| `ōpati | office |
| `openga `epetoma | weekend |
| `opu  | to catch |
| `ōrei  | to wash, handkerchief |
| `ōreirei  | to wash, to wipe clean |
| `oro  | to run |
| `oro`enua | horse |
| `orometua | pastor |
| `ōronga, `oake  | to give |
| `ōrotē  | holiday, vacation, to go on holiday |
| `ōu | new |
| **`U** | `ū`ā | thigh |
| `u`una, pipini | to hide |
| `u`uti  | to pull |
| `uā mata | eyeball |
| `uāmoa | eggs |
| `ui ariki | chiefs |
| `ui tupuna, `ai tupuna | ancestor, ancestors |
| `unga`unga | little pieces |
| `unōnga tāne | son-in-law |
| `unōnga va`ine | daughter-in-law |
| `ura  | to dance |
| `uri  | to turn |
| `uri`uri  | to discuss, to turn over, to look around  |
| `uru`uru mata | eyelashes |
| `uru`uru va`a | beard, moustache |
| `uru`uru, rauru, rouru | hair |
| **A** | aere  | to walk, to go |
| aere mai | to come |
| aere `oko`oko  | to go shopping  |
| aere`anga | going (act of) |
| akama`ara  | to remember |
| ākapāpā | uncle (colloquial) |
| ana | cave |
| anu | cold |
| anuanu | cool |
| ānuanua | rainbow |
| ara kākena, ara kākenga | ladder, steps |
| ārāvei'anga | a visit |
| ariki tāne | king |
| ariki va`ine | queen |
| aue  | to cry |
| auīka | blue |
| ava | wharf, harbour, passage in the reef |
| avata tutu | television |
| **E** | e te | and |
| eta`i (teta`i) | some |
| **I** | i `akape`ea | how |
| i mua ake | before |
| i muri ake | after |
| i te kaokao | beside |
| i te pae | near |
| i`o | mirror |
| ika | fish |
| ināra | but |
| ingoa | name |
| ingoa metua | last name |
| inu  | to drink |
| iti | tiny, small |
| **K** | kā`iro  | to mix |
| kai `ua rakau | fruits |
| kai `ua rākau kā`iro | fruit salad |
| kai moana | seafood |
| kai raurau kā`iro | vegetable salad (leafy greens) |
| kaimoumou  | to waste |
| kaingākai | table |
| kaitī  | to have breakfast |
| kāka`u | clothing |
| kakara | fragrant |
| kakati  | to bite |
| kake, piki | to climb |
| kakī | neck |
| kāmera | camel |
| kāmuta | carpenter |
| kānapanapa | shiny, sparkle, glitter |
| kanga  | to play |
| kaope | coffee |
| kapaiē | hedge |
| kaparāta | cupboard |
| kāpati | cabbage |
| kapi puka | page |
| kāpiki  | to shout, to yell |
| kapu | cup |
| kapu i te kai  | to dish the food |
| karakara | colourful |
| karaponga | throat |
| karāti | glass |
| kare | sea foam, surf |
| kāre | not, nothing, never |
| kāroti | carrot |
| kata  | kūmara cutting for propogation, to laugh |
| katau | right |
| katikati  | to snack |
| katu | head |
| kau  | to swim |
| kauī | left |
| kauvai | stream, river, lake |
| kava | sour |
| keiā  | to steal, to rob |
| kēke | cake |
| kēkē | armpit |
| keke-matīni | chainsaw |
| kerekere | black |
| keri  | to dig |
| ketepōro | netball |
| ki`ea | where |
| kikini  | to pinch |
| kikite | cunning, smart |
| kimikimi  | to search (for) |
| kimikimi`anga | research |
| kino | bad, damaged |
| kiona | snow |
| kiore ngiāo | cat |
| kiore toka | mouse, rat |
| kiri kāka`u | suitcase |
| Kiritimiti | Christmas |
| kite  | to see, clever, bright |
| kite`anga | seeing, knowing (act of) |
| ko`ai | who |
| kō`anga | nest |
| ko`i  | to collect |
| kōkai | fork |
|  | komakoma  | to talk, to speak |
| kōpapa | body |
| kōpē | lazy |
| kōpu | stomach |
| kōpu tangata | extended family |
| korero, tuatua | to speak |
| kōto`e`anga | excuse |
| kukuma | cucumber |
| kupenga | net |
| kupenga uira | website |
| kupu | word |
| kuru | breadfruit |
| **M** | mā | clean |
| ma`ana | warm |
| mā`anga | twins |
| ma`ani  | to make  |
| ma`ata | many, plenty, loud (of sound) |
| mā`ine | Miss, lady |
| maikuku rima | fingernails |
| mākara | orange (colour) |
| mākete | market |
| māmā `ua | too easy |
| māmā ru`au | grandmother |
| mamae  | to be sore, to hurt |
| māmāiāta | early morning, dawn |
| mamao | far |
| māmoe | sheep |
| manamanatā | problem |
| mānea | pretty, beautiful |
| mangamangā rima | fingers |
| mangamanga, vaevae | toes |
| manu | bird |
| manu`iri | guest, tourist |
| manuia | luck |
| māoro  | to massage |
| marama | month, moon |
| mārama  | to understand, bright |
| māramarama | window |
| māreva | air |
| mārie | slowly |
| marū | softly |
| mata | eyes |
| mata'iapo | eldest child (daughter/son), subchief |
| mata`iti | year |
| mataku  | to be afraid |
| matangi | wind |
| mataora | happy |
| matatio | with focus, carefully |
| matau | hook |
| matepongi  | to be hungry |
| māti  | to march, box of matches |
| matie | green |
| matie, maratea | light green |
| matū | fat, fleshy, fat tissue |
| maunga | mountain |
| me kāre, me kore ra | or |
| meangiti | small (in size) |
| meika | banana |
| meika para | ripe banana |
| meitaki | good, well |
| mēre | mail |
| mereki | plate |
| merēni | watermelon |
| metua | parent/s  |
| metua tāne | father, dad |
| metua tāne `ōngai | father-in-law |
| metua va`ine | mother, mum |
| metua va`ine `ōngai | mother-in-law |
| mimiti | head of animal or fish |
| mingimingi | curly |
| mirimiri  | to feel |
| mō`ina | bottle |
| moa | chicken |
| moe  | to sleep |
| moemoeā  | to dream |
| moenga | mat |
| mokopuna, ūtaro | grandchild |
| mokorā | duck |
| mokotua | back (body part) |
| moni | money |
| morī | lamp |
| mou  | to hold |
| mua | in front |
| muramura | red |
| muri | back |
| mūtēkī | quiet |
| **N** | naero | nail |
| namu | mosquito |
| naringa | if only |
| neke  | to move |
| nene`i | camera |
| nēti | nurse |
| nga metua | parents |
| nga`ā  | to break |
| ngā`i | place, spot |
| ngā`i kangakanga | playground |
| ngā`i no`o`anga | address |
| ngā`i pā`ī vai | swimming pool |
| ngaika | lime (coral lime, whitewash, or mortar) |
| ngāngā`ēre | bush |
| ngaro  | to be gone, to be lost |
| ngaropoina  | to forget |
| ngaru | wave |
| ngatā | difficult, hard |
| ngutu`are tangata | household, immediate family |
| ngutupa | door |
| ni`o | tooth |
| nira | needle |
| nitā | pawpaw |
| no reira | so, therefore |
| no te mea | because |
| no`o  | to sit |
| no`o`anga | chair, stool, seat |
| noātu | even though |
| numero | number |
| nūti | news |
| nūtipēpa | newspaper |
| **O** | one | soil, sand |
| ora | clock, time |
| ora`anga | life |
| oriori  | to shake |
| ove | bell, siren |
| **P** | pa`i | taro patch |
| pā`ī | bath, shower |
| pā`ī tai, vai | swimming |
| pa`īrere | aeroplane |
| pa`u  | to answer, to reply, drum (instrument) |
| paero | barrel |
| pai | pie, banana pancake |
| pakete | bucket |
| pākiri | skin |
| pakuivi | shoulder |
| pāpā rū`au | grandfather |
| papa`anga | genealogy |
| pāpāringa | cheeks |
| para | ripe, scraps, leftovers, yellow leaves |
| paraoni | brown |
| pare | hat |
| pari  | to chop |
| pāruru  | to protect, wall |
| pātete | passenger |
| pati  | to ask |
| pāti  | to pass |
| pātikara matīni | motorbike |
| pātikara takataka`i | bicycle |
| patipati  | to beg, to bother someone to get something  |
| pātiri | battery |
| pāto`i  | to refuse |
| patupatu pōro | volleyball |
| paunu  | to weigh |
| pe`i  | to throw |
| peapa | paper |
| pēni | paint |
| pēnitara | pencil |
| pēpe | baby |
| pere | cards |
| periota | full stop |
| peu | custom, habit |
| pi`a moe | bedroom |
| pi`a no`ono`o | lounge |
| pi`a tunu kai | kitchen |
| pia | starch |
| pikika`a  | to tell lies  |
| pīpī  | to water the flowers/plants, spray |
| pīra | bill |
| piri | tight, riddle |
| pirikoti, pitikoti | skirt |
| piringa, `akatua`ine, `akatungāne, `akateina, `akatuakana | cousin |
| piripou poto | shorts, pants |
| piripou roa | trousers, long pants |
| pītete | potato |
| po`itirere  | to surprise |
| po`o rima | elbow |
| po`o vaevae | heel |
| pona tāne | shirt |
| pōpongi | morning |
| pōro | ball |
| porokarāmu | programme |
| porotito | veranda |
| poto | short |
| pu`āpi`i | teacher |
| pu`āpi`i ma`ata | principal, headmaster |
| pu`era  | to bloom |
| pu`i  | to whistle |
| puaka | pig |
| puakani`o | goat |
| puakāoa | dog |
| pūākapa | tent |
| puakatoro | cow |
| puku`atu | heart |
| punua puakāoa | puppy |
| pupū  | to be boiling (water)  |
| pupu`i  | to blow, to shoot |
| purūmu  | to sweep |
| putāngi`u, putāi`u | nose |
| pūtē | pocket, sack |
| **R** | rā `ānau`anga  | birthday |
| rae | forehead |
| raiti | rice |
| ranga  | to search for something, to lever up |
| rango | flies |
| rango pātia | wasp |
| rapurapu  | to hurry, to rush |
| raraku, rakuraku  | to scratch |
| raranga  | to weave |
| rarata | tame, gentle, domesticated  |
| raro | below |
| ratio | radio |
| ravarāi | all together |
| raverave  | to be practical |
| raurau | leaf |
| re`ure`u | grey |
| reka, roro | yummy, delicious |
| rengarenga | yellow |
| repo | dirty |
| rere  | to jump, to fly |
| rērue | train |
| reva | weather, flag, air, to leave, climate |
| rikiriki | tiny |
| riri | angry |
| ririnui | strong |
| ro`i | bed, to be tired |
| roka  | lock, to lock |
| roro uira | computer |
| roromi  | to squeeze |
| rota`i  | to get together |
| rota`i`anga kōpu tangata | family reunion |
| roto | inside |
| rotopū | middle, in between |
| runga  | above |
| **T** | taingoa  | to label |
| ta`akari vaevae | calf |
| ta`atai | beach |
| ta`ito | old |
| ta`oki `aka`ōu  | to repeat |
| ta`ua | floor |
| tae mai  | to arrive |
| tae vave, viviki mai, atu  | to be punctual |
| taieni | Science (school subject) |
| taime ravarāi | all the time |
| taka`i pātikara  | to cycle |
| taki  | to lead |
| tāki  | to lift |
| takiāto korero | sentence |
| takita`i ake | once |
| tākore, tākinokino  | to destroy |
| takoto  | to lie down |
| tāmā  | to clean |
| tamā`ine | girl, daughter |
| tamaiti | child (boy or girl) |
| tamaka | shoes, sandals |
| tamariki | children |
| tamariki `āpi`i | school children |
| tamāroa | boy, son |
| tāmataora | party |
| tangata | people |
| tangata `aka`oro | driver |
| tanu  | to plant |
| tāoni | town |
| taote | doctor |
| tāpa`e  | to drop in, to call at  |
| tāpeka  | to tie a knot, to fold arms and cross legs, a knot |
| tāporoporo  | to preserve, to look after, to conserve |
| tāporoporo`anga | preserving |
| tapuae vaevae | sole |
| tārē  | to count |
| tārevakē  | mistake, error |
| taringa | ear |
| tārona | pink |
| tātā  | to write |
| tatau  | to read |
| `akametua tane | uncle |
| taura | rope, cotton |
| tautau  | to hang |
| tāviri | key, twist |
| te au ra katoatoa | every day |
| teata | movie, film |
| teatea | white |
| tēianei ao | this world |
| teina | younger sister(s) to an older sister, younger brother(s) to an older brother |
| teitei | high |
| terepōni | telephone |
| terepōni `apaipai | mobile phone |
| teretere`anga | journey, voyage |
| teta`i `ākara`anga | for example |
| teta`i taime | at times |
| tiaki  | to wait |
| Tiaki Kiritimiti | Christmas Eve |
| Tiaki Mata`iti | New Year’s Eve |
| tiaki toa | shop assistant |
| tiare | flower |
| tiati pātiri | charger (cell phone) |
| tieni  | to get change (money) |
| tīkata | kettle |
| tikatika | straight |
| tīketi | ticket |
| tiki | statue |
| tīkoti  | to cross out |
| tinainai, moe tinainai | fast asleep |
| tiōpu | soup, stew, broth |
| tīpani | frangipani |
| tīporo | lime (fruit) |
| tīpū  | to cut, to cut off |
| tītā | rubbish |
| tīti | cheese |
| titiri  | to throw away |
| tō`ou, tōku reo | your/my language |
| toa | store, shop |
| toka | stone, rock |
| tonga | south |
| tono  | to send (a person) |
| tōpāpā | to knock |
| topiri  | to close |
| torō  | to draw |
| tōtini | socks |
| toto | blood |
| totoro  | to crawl |
| tu katau  | to be confident |
| tu ki runga  | to stand up |
| tu`anga `āpi`i | school subject |
| tu`e  | to kick |
| tu`epōro | rugby |
| tu`epōro taki `itu | 7-a-side rugby |
| tu`epōro tārape | soccer |
| tua | story, tale |
| tua ta`ito | legends, ancient stories |
| tua`ine | sister to a brother |
| tuā`ivi | hill |
| tuakana | older brother(s) to a younger brother, older sister(s) to a younger sister |
| tuaru  | to chase away |
| tuātau kaikai | school break |
| tuke mata | eyebrow |
| tuke ni`o | gum |
| tuku  | to put  |
| tuku karere  | to send messages |
| tumu rākau | tree |
| tumu tāpura | theme |
| tungāne | brother to a sister |
| tunu kai  | to cook |
| turanga Māori Kūki `Āirani | identity |
| turanga o te reva | weather |
| ture | rule |
| turi  | to be deaf, knee |
| turituri | noisy |
| turou | welcome |
| tūruā`ipō | midnight |
| tutaki  | to pay |
| tūtū mata | face |
| tuturi  | to kneel down  |
| **U** | uāti | watch |
| ūkī  | to grate, rub, grind, scrub |
| umauma | chest |
| unga | hermit crab |
| unga kaveu | coconut crab |
| **V** | va`a | mouth |
| va`arua | hole |
| va`o  | outside |
| vāere  | to weed |
| vaevae | foot, feet, legs |
| vai | water |
| vai rere | waterfall |
| vairākau | medicine |
| vāito  | to measure, measurement  |
| varāoa | bread |
| vare`au | purple |
| vareā moe  | to be sleepy |
| ve`eve`e aro`a  | to farewell |
| vene | sweet |
| veo | bronze |
| vevete  | to rip, to tear |
| viri  | to drill |
| viviki | fast movement, quick |
| viviki tikāi | very fast |