



NCEA Level 1 Te Reo Māori Kūki 'Āirani Revised Vocabulary List 2025 Easy-print PDF version

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](#).

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
	ake, 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 propagation, 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
kī`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)
	māketete	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, `akatuā`ine, `akatingāne, `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
tēianeī 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
virī	to drill
viviki	fast movement, quick
viviki tikāi	very fast