

**NCEA Level 3 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 3 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 8. 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.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **L3** | **Te Reo Māori Kūki ‘Āirani** | **English** | **Vocabulary classes** |
| **`A** | `a`aki | to confess | verb |
| `akama`u | to heal up, to recover | verb |
| `akameremere, `akaperepere | to cherish, to care for | verb |
| `akapatī | to splash, to splatter | verb |
| `akapetetue | swelled | adjective |
| `akapo`epo`e | to dim or lower the light or flame | verb |
| `akatapu | to make holy or sacred | verb |
| `akatoro | to extend, to stretch out | verb |
| `akaū | to bump into, to collide, to barge into | verb |
| `ākia | ache of a limb | adjective |
| `āpakāti | a person whose parents are of different races | adjective |
| `āpikepike  | feeble, weak | verb |
| `ārarau | to grab hold of | verb |
| `ārōrō | to peep | verb |
| `atamira | ceremonial litter, carved seat or throne of a chief | noun |
| `ātoro  | to go and see, to visit | verb |
| `ātui | to connect, to hang something onto a nail | verb |
| **`E** | `ēi | said when passing something to someone | verb |
| `ei`ei | trapped in a net, to wear a necklace garland or wreath | verb |
| `eru | rummage, shuffle things about | verb |
| `eru`eru | scratch around, scrabble, rummage | verb |
| `ētū rere | shooting star | noun |
| **`I** | `inapō | last night | noun |
| `inu`inu | greasy, oily (state), fatty | noun |
| `iora | just then, right then, there upon | verb |
| `īpana | to prise up/out/off, to flick away | verb |
| `ītoatoa | to strive bravely | adverb |
| **`O** | `ō`ō | to show friendship, to show respect, round spot or dot | noun. verb |
| `ōmingi | curl up (knees to chin), stoop, bend back (on knees), tuck your legs in | verb |
| `ona mirioni | rich person, millionaire | adjective |
| `ōngā | surplus, extra, additional, excess | adjective |
| `ono | to replace a cord/thread to repair something (eg, repair a ripped fishing net with thread, to replace leaves in a plaited mat) | verb |
| `ōrure`au | rebellion/rebel, revolt, mutiny, riot, revolution, breach of peace | adjective |
| `ōu`anga  | time, state of youth, newness | noun |
| **`U** | `uapou | assemble, congregate | verb |
| `ukarere | ukulele | noun |
| `une`une | scab, sores, the core of breadfruit | noun |
| `uru`urungā | tangled, untidy | adjective |
| **A** | ara matangi | wind direction | noun |
| aranga | appear on surface | verb |
| **I** | ika miti | sun dried fish | noun |
| iki`anga | a selection, process of selecting | verb. noun |
| inana`i | yesterday | noun |
| iro | maggot, threadworm | noun |
| ivi kaokao | rib | noun |
| ivi mokotua | backbone | noun |
| **O** | otaota | tasting dry and gritty (of a juiceless fruit) | verb |
| **U** | uāti  | watch, wristwatch | noun |
| uira | electric, electricity | noun |
| uira | lightning, wheel | noun |
| uki | generation | noun |
| una`i | to scale the fish | verb |
| ungaunga | to send someone off, small hermit crabs | verb. noun |
| urua  | trevally (fish) | noun |
| **K** | kākapu | fill a container | verb |
| kākave  | tentacle of the octopus | noun |
| kāmutamuta | to mutter (under one's breath) | verb |
| kāoa | coral, coral rock in the lagoon | noun |
| kaokao | side of (person or thing) | noun |
| kape | to dodge | verb |
| karakarātio | a burnt offering | noun |
| karakia | a prayer | noun |
| keokeo | sharp pointed, fine pointed or sharp point | verb |
| kerēti | to grade something (oranges, fruits) | adjective |
| kōmono | representative or deputy of the mata`iapo, the younger brother of the mata`iapo | noun |
| kōmutu | stub of firewood unconsumed by the fire | noun |
| kūpiti | cubit (unit of length) | noun |
| kuriri | a shore bird, the Wandering Tattler | noun |
| **M** | ma`aki | to break off | verb |
| mama`u | kapok or kapok tree | noun |
| māngaro | bland and mild (flavours), not salty or savoury | adjective |
| marae | clear (vegetation) | adjective |
| matapō | blind | adjective |
| mātoru | thick through | adjective |
| mono | to fill a place or gap with a substitute, replace(ment), substitute | adjective |
| monomono | to put in a replacement, push things in to fill / plug / block up a hole | verb |
| **N** | nākirokiro | to realise, to make sense | verb |
| nati | to bind, tie tightly around, twisted, looped snare (noun) | noun. verb |
| nāti | nut (to screw on to bolt). | noun |
| neke āere  | not use the legs when moving around | adverb |
| nōku | belonging to me | verb |
| **Ng** | nga`ae | rip, torn, a tear | verb |
| ngakau aroa | kindheartedness | adjective |
| ngaki | to care for, to look after, to bring up (a child) | verb |
| ngarepu | to be rough | verb |
| ngārepurepu | to be continuously disturbed | verb |
| ngari ake, ngari mai | be better, improved | adjective |
| ngāruerue  | quake, shake (of the ground) | verb |
| ngote | evaporate, to suck up, suck in, absorb | verb |
| **P** | pa`ī  | ship  | noun |
| paepae | the grounds around the house of an ariki, mata`iapo, or other notable | noun |
| pakari  | strong, tough, sturdy, firm, strength | verb |
| pākau  | thing | noun |
| pange | to support (including support of ideas) | verb |
| pāngika  | bank | noun |
| paopao | chip out (a hollow or holes), crack open with blows, to sting, to peck | verb |
| parāka | pulley | noun |
| paruparu | weak/weary, slack | adjective |
| patere | slip or to slide along | verb |
| pātere | to peel off | verb |
| pātū | to stand something upright, to erect a post | verb |
| pētini | basin | noun |
| piriārangi | horizon | noun |
| po`o | corner | noun |
| pō`ue | a creeping plant used for medicine | noun |
| pōkai  | roll up, coil up | verb |
| popoki | to pat, to cover over, to overtake | verb |
| puā`io`io  | tornado, whirlwind | noun |
| pūkakā | very hot and bright | adjective |
| pūngāverevere | cobweb | noun |
| pupuru | to cling wetly, to stick | adjective |
| **R** | ra roroa | long days | noun |
| ra`ira`i | large numbers/amounts of, numerous | adjective |
| rau`ao | leaves of the hibiscus tiliaceus | noun |
| rei | stem of a canoe, a flat platform  | noun |
| rūketekete | to shiver, shake, tremble, vibrate; shivering | verb |
| **T** | tā`ata | to lay something on or across | verb |
| tāinamu | mosquito net | noun |
| takaānini | to feel dizzy, whirl giddily, reel | verb |
| takere o te moana | at the bottom of the ocean | adjective |
| tāmanako`anga  | to estimate, to guess | verb |
| tāparāka | to use a pulley | noun |
| tāruri kē | disturb, shift, to alter position of something | verb |
| tatari | to await, to wait in hope | verb |
| tātīmēni  | cement the floor | verb |
| tauī | to exchange, replace somebody, change over | verb |
| tauī`anga reva | climate change | adjective |
| taumārō | to argue, to debate | verb |
| taurua | partner, fellow (of a pair), companion | noun |
| tautai akau | reef fishing | adjective |
| tautai kupenga moana | purse seine fishing | adjective |
| tautopa | to invoke, to call upon | verb |
| tētimara | decimal | noun |
| tukutuku taime | take alternate turns | verb |
| **V** | va`e`au | soldier, warrior | noun |
| va`ie | dry sticks for fire | noun |
| vairākau  | treat (with medicine etc), fumigate | verb |
| vaitata | draw close, be near (of time and place) | verb |
| vāitoito | to ration (eg, food) | verb |
| vāniti | vanish | noun |
| vao`o | to put, to postpone, to leave | verb |
| ve`u, ve`uve`u | disturbed, churned up (of water)  | verb |