



## Ideas for exploring



### Activity: Oriori writing

#### Objectives:

- 1) Increase familiarity with *Whakatipu* and Oriori
- 2) Personalise Oriori
- 3) Reflect on the importance of developing identity for developing

#### Process

##### Set the Scene – He aha he oriori? What are oriori?

Oriori are traditional lullabies sung or chanted to pēpi as they enter the world. There is a range of tikanga Māori practices whānau use during the birth of their pēpi. The singing or chanting of oriori as the pēpi emerges into the world might be one of these.

Amster Reedy, Ngati Porou, runs wananga on oriori in Wellington. He says oriori embed in the heart of the pēpi what is going to be most important to them and are an important start to their developing sense of identity. The verses of an oriori for pēpi may include:

- ◆ where they are from – maunga, awa, moana, iwi (mountain, river, sea, people)
- ◆ whakapapa – matua, koro/kuia, tipuna / genealogy (parents, grandparents, ancestors)
- ◆ the achievements of their ancestors
- ◆ guidance from tipuna about their place in te Ao (the wider world)
- ◆ the path their ancestors have set for them.

**Large group** – Ask for volunteers who may have personal experiences of oriori that they would be willing to share?

**Small group discussion** – What would an oriori include for you?

**Individual** - What would you want your tamariki/mokopuna to know about? Jot some ideas down in response to the following prompts:

- △ where they are from ...
- △ their whakapapa – those who came before them ...
- △ the achievements of their whānau ...
- △ what you would want them to know about the world and their place in it
- △ what values would you want them to share
- △ what qualities might you wish for them ...

These could be written up or printed on individual pages to write directly onto.

#### Extension:

Watch the video: <http://tvnz.co.nz/waka-huia/oriori-4-sep-4370810>

(Retrieved 11 May 2012 from TVNZ.)

A clip from that video can be viewed here: <http://www.skip.org.nz/whakatipu/nga-mahi/waiata/te-pihinga-waiata.html>

**Options:** Ask for volunteers who might share their oriori

**Resources used:**

Sets of *Whakatipu* booklets

Pens, paper

Appropriate device to access internet.