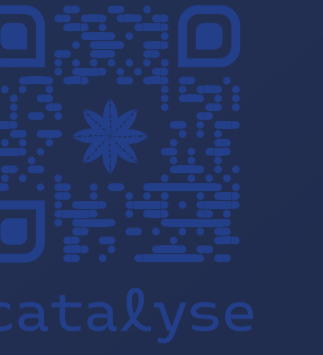




# Mānawatia a Matariki



# Matariki

## Matariki Ideas Board

For this second Matariki public holiday, we offer this resource to support practices of remembrance, celebration of the present and aspirations for the future. It is our gift to Aotearoa.

This year our theme is 'home' in all its many forms. In this time of collective renewal and connection, in the spirit of Matariki, we encourage you to share your thoughts, perceptions and experiences of home and grow a little closer to those around you. Home is where your story begins.

**catalyse**

## Using this tool

The "Ideas Board" is resource Catalyse developed to help gather community feedback. This version of the Ideas Board is designed to help people connect with one another by sharing personal reflections in the spirit of Matariki.

Best printed to **A1 or AO size** and used as an interactive poster, this tool can help foster **tohatoha** (sharing) and **wānanga** (discussion) that brings about **kotahitanga** (unity). Use it in a group to better understand one another as you remember those who have passed on over the previous year; to celebrate the present; to honor the abundance of all that is in your collective worlds; and to look to the future together.

Alternatively, hang it in a place where different people gather - such as a classroom, lunchroom, café, community centre, marae - and encourage people to share thoughts anonymously or with their name added. You may be surprised at the conversations and connections that happen as a result!

 **share and share alike**

## About Matariki

For many Māori, the eastern, pre-dawn, appearance of Matariki (Pleiades) in the winter sky, during the last quarter of the lunar month of Pipiri marks the beginning of the Māori New Year (te mātahi o te tau). Now a public holiday, traditionally the rising of Matariki launched the most significant celebration in the Māori calendar for many iwi.

The appearance of Matariki continues to be honoured with ritual and ceremony as a period of reflection, remembrance, celebration, festivities, and all the promise of a new season. Matariki is part of an environmental calendar system that includes the position of the sun, heliacal rising of stars, lunar phases, and regional ecological events. All of these factors inform a Māori environment-driven division of time.

### Matariki is underpinned by key values, most significantly:

**aroha** — love and respect for one another  
**whakamaharatanga** — remembrance  
**kotahitanga** — unity  
**manaakitanga** — caring  
**tohatoha** — sharing  
**mana taiao** — environmental awareness

**hākari** — feasting  
**wānanga** — discussion  
**noho tahi** — coming together  
**atawhaitanga** — kindness  
**whakanui** — celebrations  
**tuakiritanga** — identity

**Matariki Hunga Nui** means "the many people of Matariki." It speaks to how Matariki calls people to gather together in remembering and honouring those who have passed on since the last rising of Matariki. This tradition is observed by offering kai to the different whetū in a ceremony called 'whāngai i te hautapu', so the spirits of the dead can become stars in the sky.

**Matariki Ahunga Nui** talks to the "great food piles" of Matariki. Communities and whānau gather to give thanks for all the blessings of the past year and to reconnect with one another by singing, dancing and sharing the fruits of the harvest.

**Matariki Manako Nui** refers to wishes and desires, learning, sharing, discussion and decision making. One of the key points of discussion during Matariki is the environment, especially the health of the natural world. Māori understood that lives depended on maintaining a strong connection to the physical world by caring for nature.

Sources: [www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2022/0014/latest/LMS557843.html](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2022/0014/latest/LMS557843.html)  
and [www.matariki.net.nz/about](http://www.matariki.net.nz/about)

