

ICONIC GAMES

Māori Legends

COLOURING & ACTIVITY BOOK



There are many ways to make your mark.

Meet 30 Māori people working across leadership, education, science, technology, art, music, film, sport and service. Colour their illustrated scenes and look at the real photographs underneath.

Then try eight activities of your own. You can draw, write, imagine, and learn with your whānau. There is no single right way to colour a picture.

The illustrations are original imagined scenes inspired by each person's work. They are not documentary photographs. The people featured have not endorsed this book.

Find a person

1. Dame Whina Cooper	3 16. Stan Walker	18
2. Sir Āpirana Ngata	4 17. Dame Kiri Te Kanawa	19
3. Te Puea Hērangi	5 18. Temuera Morrison	20
4. Kīngi Tūheitia Pōtatau Te Wherowhero VII	6 19. Keisha Castle-Hughes	21
5. Te Arikunui Dame Te Atairangikaahu	7 20. Taika Waititi	22
6. Sir James Hēnare	8 21. Lisa Reihana	23
7. Te Arikunui Kuini Nga wai hono i te po	9 22. Willie Apiata	24
8. Te Rangi Hīroa / Sir Peter Buck	10 23. Dame Lisa Carrington	25
9. Meri Te Tai Mangakāhia	11 24. Sir Ian Taylor	26
10. Ralph Hōtere	12 25. Dame Ruia Morrison	27
11. Mākereti Papakura	13 26. Professor Rangi Mātāmua	28
12. Cliff Whiting	14 27. Kendall Flutey	29
13. Ngoi Pēwhairangi	15 28. Dr Karaitiana Taiuru	30
14. Rob Ruha	16 29. Iriaka Rātana	31
15. Dame Hinewehi Mohi	17 30. Billy T. James	32

Your turn

Activities: pages 33–40 · Sources and photograph credits: pages 41–42.

Visit iconicgames.co.nz/library/maori-legends-colouring-book to colour online. Work saved online stays on the device and browser you use.

Dame Whina Cooper

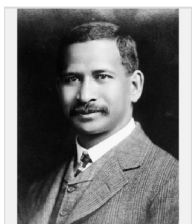


Whina Cooper led the Māori land march to Parliament in 1975.

[Fact source: \[teara.govt.nz\]\(https://teara.govt.nz\)](https://teara.govt.nz)

Photo: Christian Heinegg. Free use with attribution. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Sir Āpirana Ngata

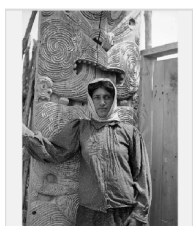


Āpirana Ngata collected and published traditional Māori songs in Ngā Mōteatea.

[Fact source: \[teara.govt.nz\]\(https://teara.govt.nz\)](https://teara.govt.nz)

Photo: Taken by an unidentified photographer.. Public domain. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Te Puea Hērangi

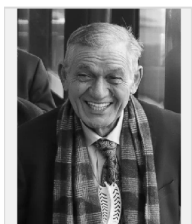


Te Puea Hērangi helped establish Tūrangawaewae marae at Ngāruawāhia.

[Fact source: \[teara.govt.nz\]\(https://teara.govt.nz\)](https://teara.govt.nz)

Photo: William A Price. Public domain. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Kingi Tūheitia Pōtatau Te Wherowhero VII



Tūheitia was the seventh Māori monarch, serving from 2006 until 2024.

[Fact source: waikatotainui.com](https://www.waikatotainui.com)

Photo: Office of the Governor-General of New Zealand. CC BY 4.0. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Te Arikinui Dame Te Atairangikaahu



Te Atairangikaahu served as Māori Queen for forty years, from 1966 to 2006.

[Fact source: \[teara.govt.nz\]\(https://teara.govt.nz\)](https://teara.govt.nz)

Photo: Rob Bogaerts for Anefo. CC BY-SA 3.0. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Sir James Hēnare



James Hēnare supported the kōhanga reo movement to help te reo Māori grow.

[Fact source: \[teara.govt.nz\]\(https://teara.govt.nz\)](https://teara.govt.nz)

Photo: Photographer unknown. Public domain. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Te Arikinui Kuini Nga wai hono i te po



Nga wai hono i te po became the eighth Māori monarch in September 2024.

[Fact source: waikatotainui.com](https://www.waikatotainui.com)

Photo: Office of the Governor-General of New Zealand. CC0 1.0. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Te Rangi Hīroa / Sir Peter Buck



Te Rangi Hīroa trained as a doctor and became a researcher of Pacific cultures.

[Fact source: \[teara.govt.nz\]\(https://teara.govt.nz\)](https://teara.govt.nz)

Photo: Archives New Zealand. CC BY 2.0. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Meri Te Tai Mangakāhia

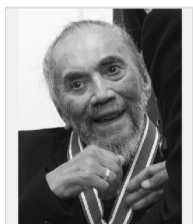


In 1893, Meri Te Tai Mangakāhia asked the Māori parliament to give women a political voice.

[Fact source: nzhistory.govt.nz](https://www.nzhistory.govt.nz)

Photo: FW Mason, photographers, Emerson St, Napier, New Zealand. Public domain. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Ralph Hōtere



Ralph Hōtere used painting to explore identity and respond to social issues.

[Fact source: thearts.co.nz](https://thearts.co.nz)

Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General. CC BY 4.0. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Mākereti Papakura



Mākereti Papakura wrote about Māori life and knowledge in *The Old-Time Maori*.

[Fact source: \[teara.govt.nz\]\(https://teara.govt.nz\)](https://teara.govt.nz)

Photo: Unknown author Unknown author. No known copyright restrictions. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Cliff Whiting



Cliff Whiting helped create Te Hono ki Hawaiki, the meeting house at Te Papa.

[Fact source: tepapa.govt.nz](https://tepap.govt.nz)

Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General. CC BY 4.0. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Ngoi Pēwhairangi



Ngoi Pēwhairangi wrote the words to Poi E, with music by Dalvanus Prime.

[Fact source: waiata.maori.nz](http://waiata.maori.nz)

Photo: Gisborne Herald, via Te Ara. Copyright retained by the original rights holder. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Rob Ruha



Rob Ruha is a songwriter, performer and kapa haka tutor who mentors young Māori artists.

[Fact source: thearts.co.nz](https://thearts.co.nz)

Photo: The Cafe (Archive). CC BY 3.0. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Dame Hinewehi Mohi



Hinewehi Mohi co-founded the Raukatauri Music Therapy Centre, which supports people through music.

[Fact source: rmtc.org.nz](https://www.rmtc.org.nz)

Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General. CC BY 4.0. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Stan Walker



Stan Walker performs songs in both English and te reo Māori.

[Fact source: nzonscreen.com](https://nzonscreen.com)

Photo: Champochampo. CC BY-SA 4.0. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Dame Kiri Te Kanawa

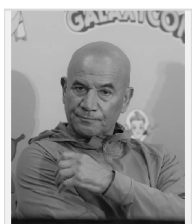


Kiri Te Kanawa became an internationally celebrated opera singer.

[Fact source: dpmc.govt.nz](https://dpmc.govt.nz)

Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General. CC0 1.0. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Temuera Morrison



Temuera Morrison has acted in films and television productions in Aotearoa and overseas.

[Fact source: nzonscreen.com](https://nzonscreen.com)

Photo: John Manard. CC BY-SA 4.0. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Keisha Castle-Hughes

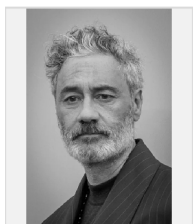
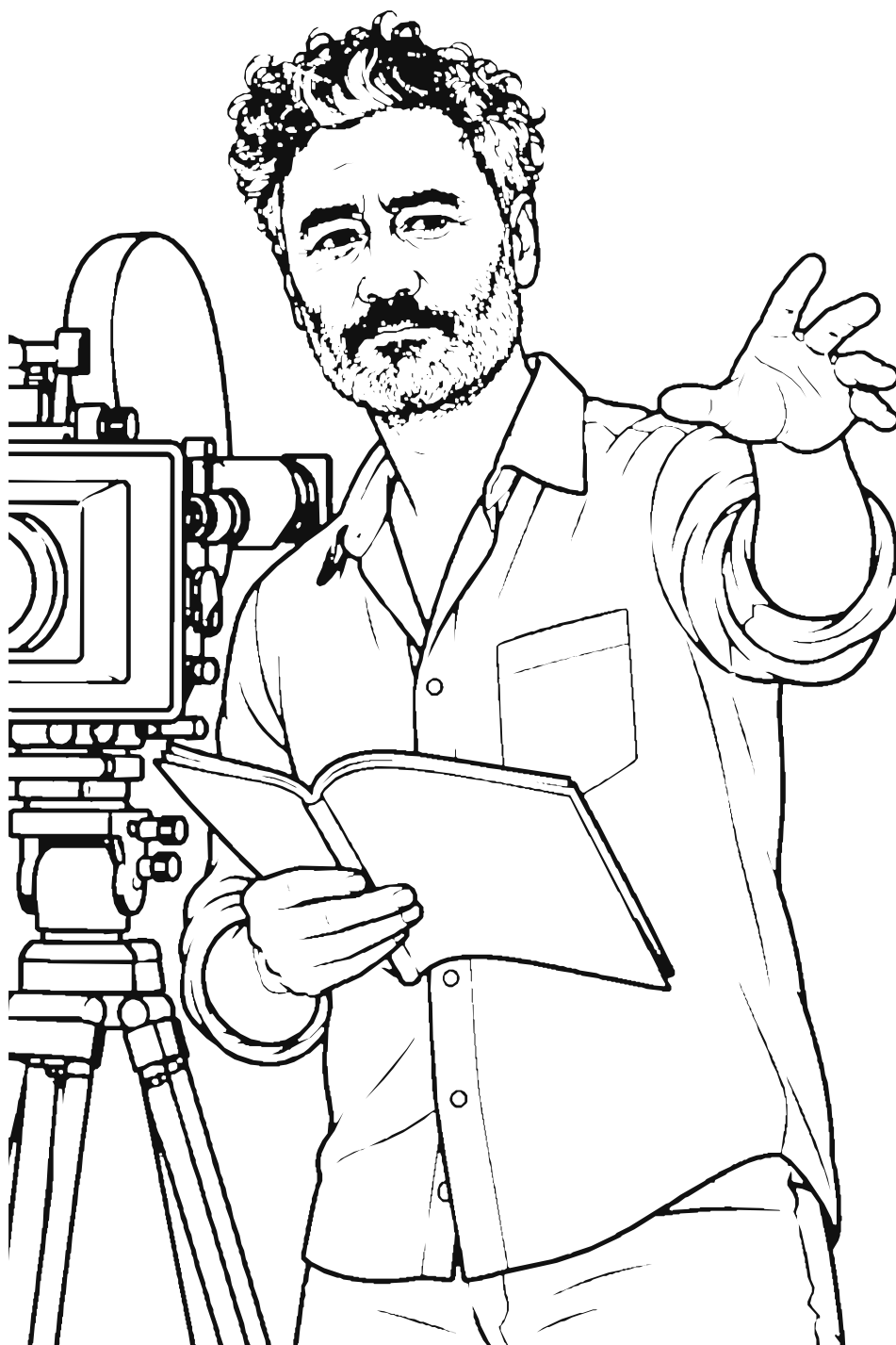


Keisha Castle-Hughes played Pai in Whale Rider and received an Academy Award nomination for the role.

[Fact source: nzonscreen.com](https://nzonscreen.com)

Photo: Sarah Said-1952. CC BY-SA 4.0. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Taika Waititi



Taika Waititi works as a director, writer, actor and visual artist.

[Fact source: thearts.co.nz](https://thearts.co.nz)

Photo: CaseyJNewell. CC BY-SA 4.0. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Lisa Reihana

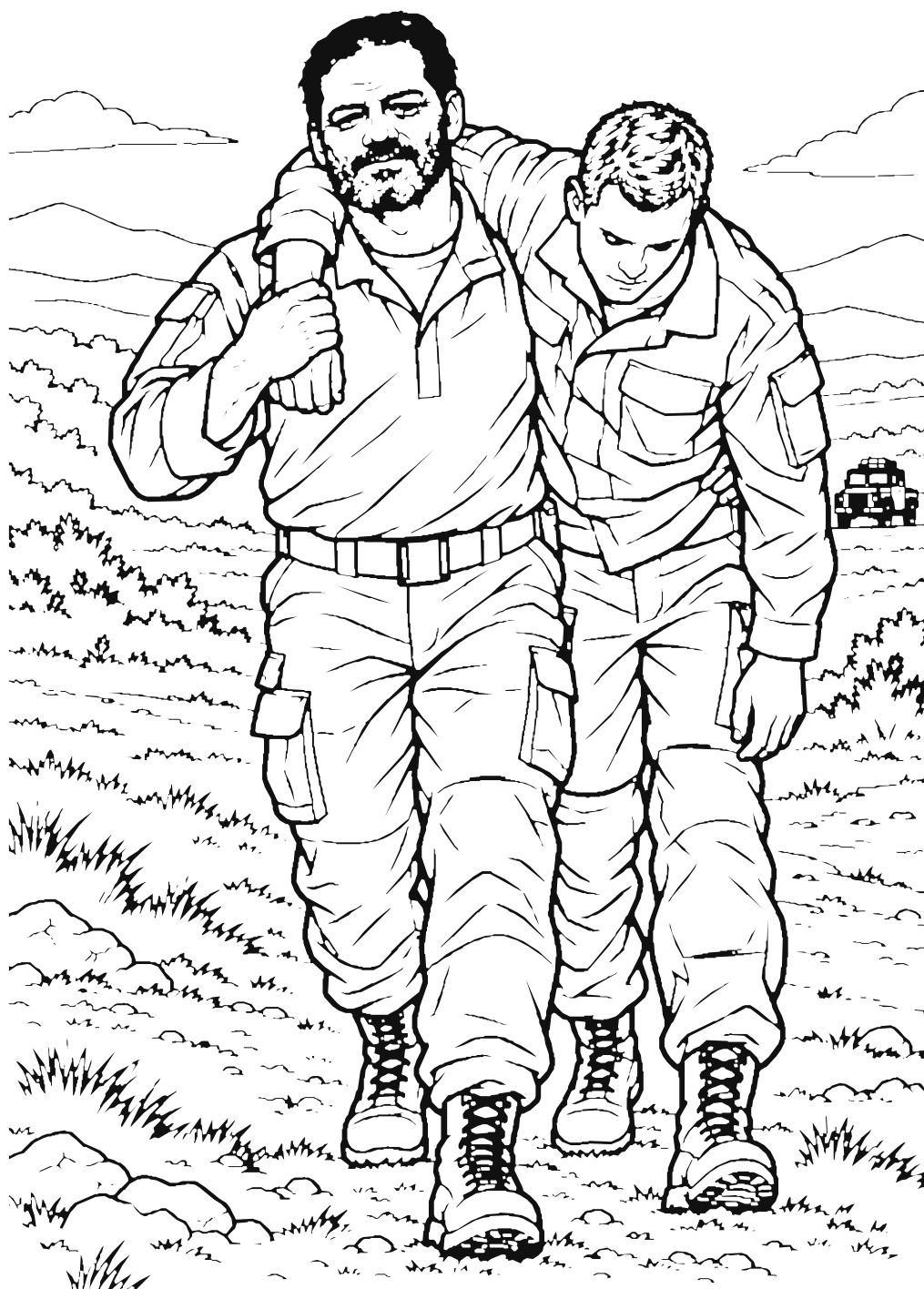


Lisa Reihana creates artworks using film, photography and other media.

[Fact source: collections.tepapa.govt.nz](https://collections.tepapa.govt.nz)

Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General. CC BY 4.0. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Willie Apiata

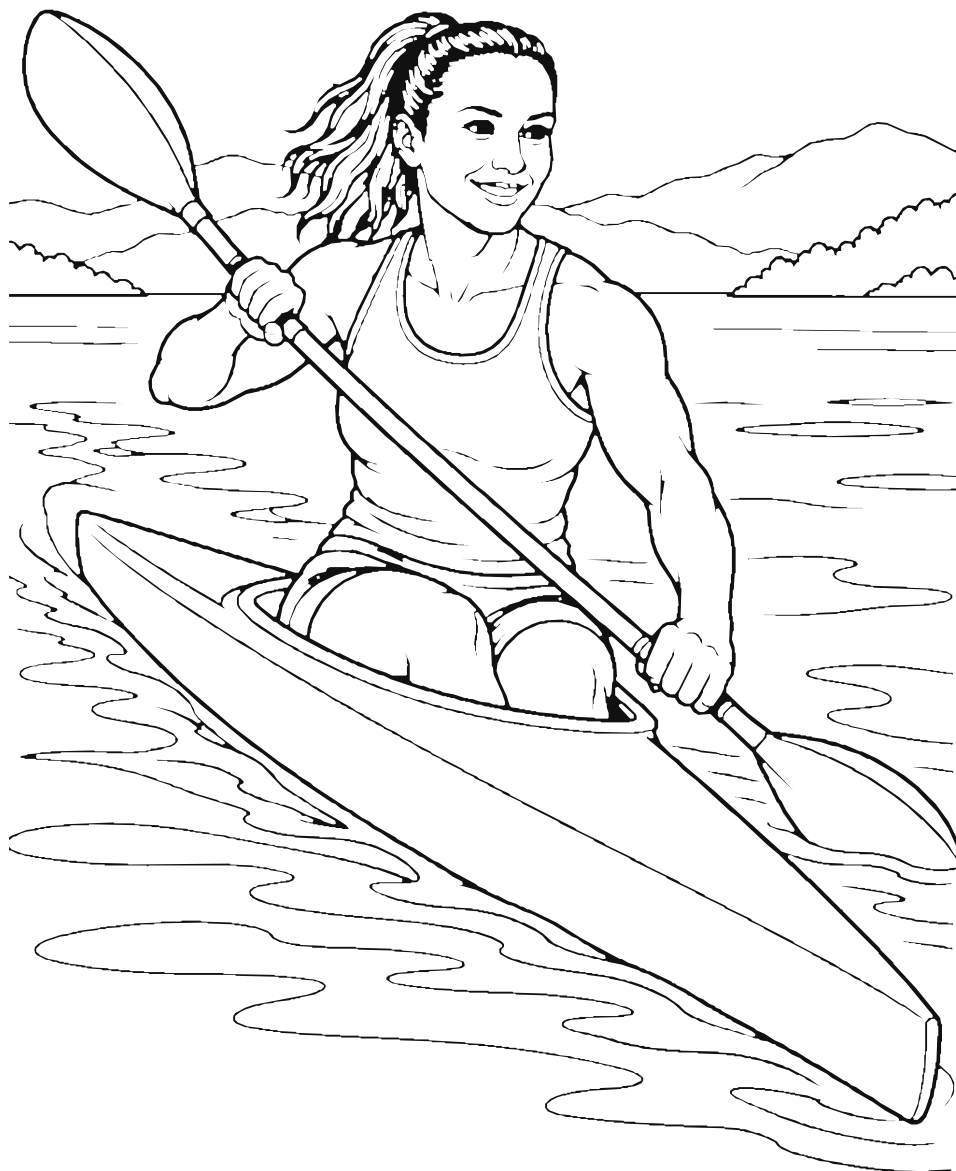


Willie Apiata received the Victoria Cross for rescuing a wounded fellow soldier.

[Fact source: nzdf.mil.nz](https://nzdf.mil.nz)

Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General. CC BY 4.0. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Dame Lisa Carrington

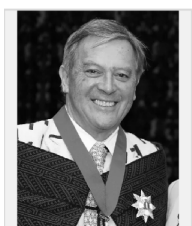


Lisa Carrington won eight Olympic gold medals across the London, Rio, Tokyo and Paris Games.

[Fact source: olympic.org.nz](https://olympic.org.nz)

Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General. CC BY 4.0. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Sir Ian Taylor

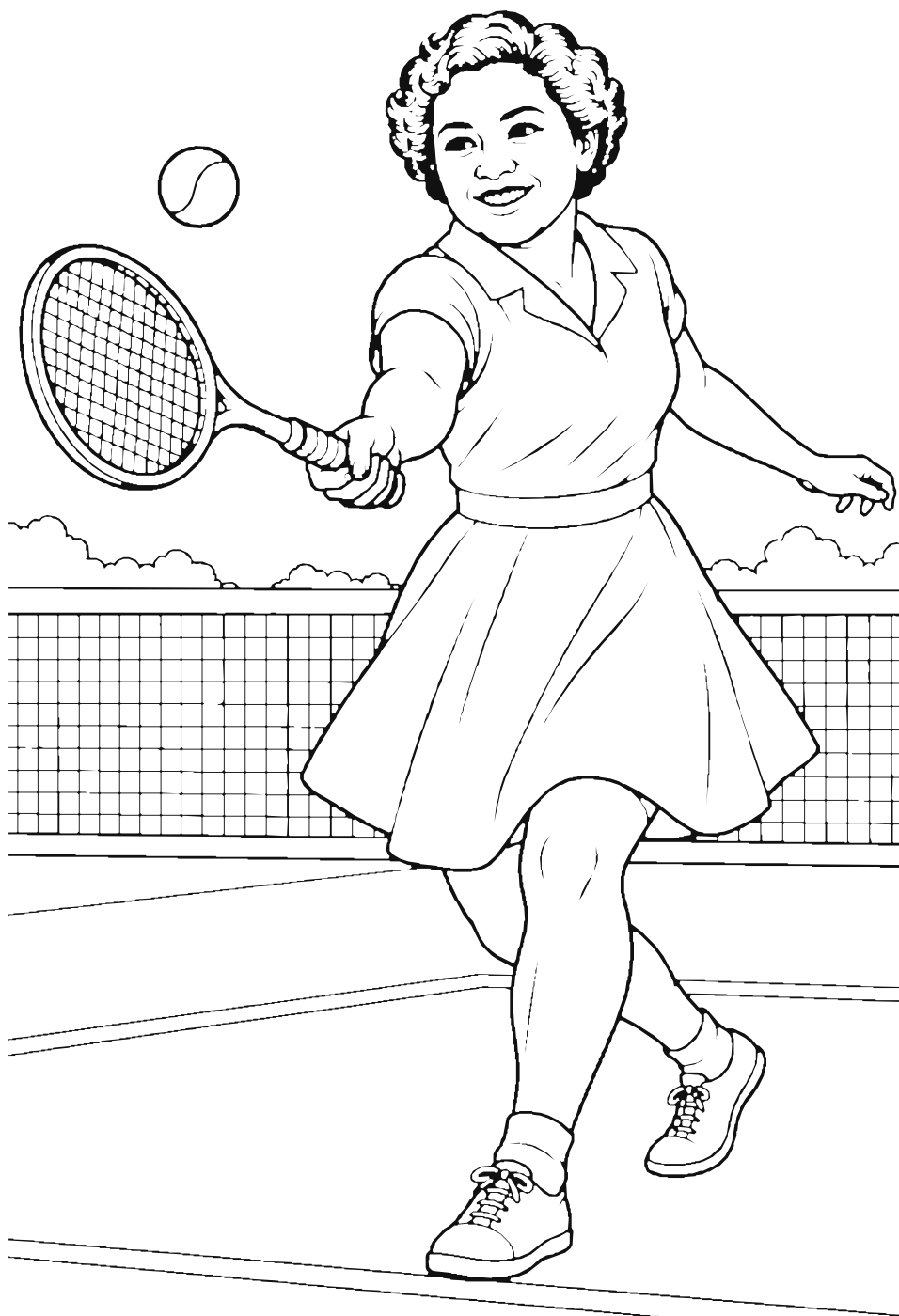


Ian Taylor co-founded Animation Research, a company known for computer graphics and sports animation.

[Fact source: arl.co.nz](http://arl.co.nz)

Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General. CC BY 4.0. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Dame Ruia Morrison



Ruia Morrison competed at Wimbledon and won many New Zealand tennis titles.

[Fact source: amta.co.nz](http://amta.co.nz)

Photo: Archives New Zealand. CC BY 2.0. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Professor Rangi Mātāmua

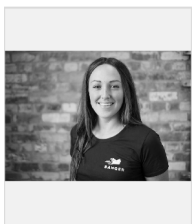


Rangi Mātāmua shares knowledge about Māori astronomy and Matariki.

[Fact source: royalsociety.org.nz](https://royalsociety.org.nz)

Photo: Royal Society Te Apārangi. CC BY-SA 4.0. Full sources on pages 41–42.

Kendall Flutey



Kendall Flutey co-founded Banqer, a digital learning platform that helps students learn about money.

Fact source: ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Photo: TE KARAKA / Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu; photographer uncredited. Copyright retained by the original rights holder. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Dr Karaitiana Taiuru



Karaitiana Taiuru works on artificial intelligence and Māori rights in the digital world.

[Fact source: taiuru.co.nz](https://taiuru.co.nz)

Photo: Taiuru & Associates Ltd. Used with credit. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Iriaka Rātana

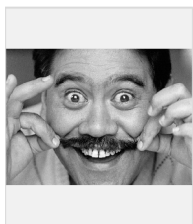


In 1949, Iriaka Rātana became the first Māori woman elected to New Zealand Parliament.

[Fact source: beehive.govt.nz](https://www.beehive.govt.nz)

Photo: Tesla Studio; Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. Public domain in New Zealand (Commons PD-New Zealand). Full sources on pages 41-42.

Billy T. James



Billy T. James entertained audiences as a comedian, musician and actor. The Billy T Award honours emerging comedians.

Fact source: nzhistory.govt.nz

Photo: Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand; EP/1985/3350/26-F. Copyright retained by the original rights holder. Full sources on pages 41-42.

Invent something helpful

Inspired by Kendall Flutey, Ian Taylor and Karaitiana Taiuru. Imagine a tool that could help your whānau or community.

Who would your invention help?

What problem would it solve?

How would it work?

Draw your invention and label its main parts.

Your drawing

Tell a story in four scenes

Inspired by Billy T. James, Keisha Castle-Hughes, Temuera Morrison and Taika Waititi. Plan a short film or a kind, funny skit. Make people laugh without putting anyone down.

What is your film or skit called?

Who is the main character?

Draw the beginning, a challenge, what happens next, and the ending.

1 · Beginning	2 · Challenge
3 · What happens next?	4 · Ending

Make your own waiata

Inspired by our singers, composers and language champions. Write original words about your whānau, a place you love, or a hope for the future. You can write in a language you know.

What will your waiata celebrate?

Write four short lines of your own.

How could you make a rhythm with claps or taps?

Design a picture for your song cover.

Your drawing

Create art with a message

Inspired by Ralph Hōtere, Cliff Whiting and Lisa Reihana. Your own shapes and colours can tell a story.

What idea or feeling will your artwork express?

Choose three shapes or colours and explain what they mean to you.

Create an original artwork about your idea.

Your drawing

Help your community

Inspired by Iriaka Rātana and the other leaders and people who serve others in this book. Small actions can make a difference.

Who or what would you like to help?

What could you do first?

Who could you work with?

Write three steps for your plan.

Draw what your helpful action could look like.

Your drawing



Set a sporting goal

Inspired by Lisa Carrington and Ruia Morrison. Choose a sport or movement you enjoy and a skill you would like to practise.

What skill would you like to improve?

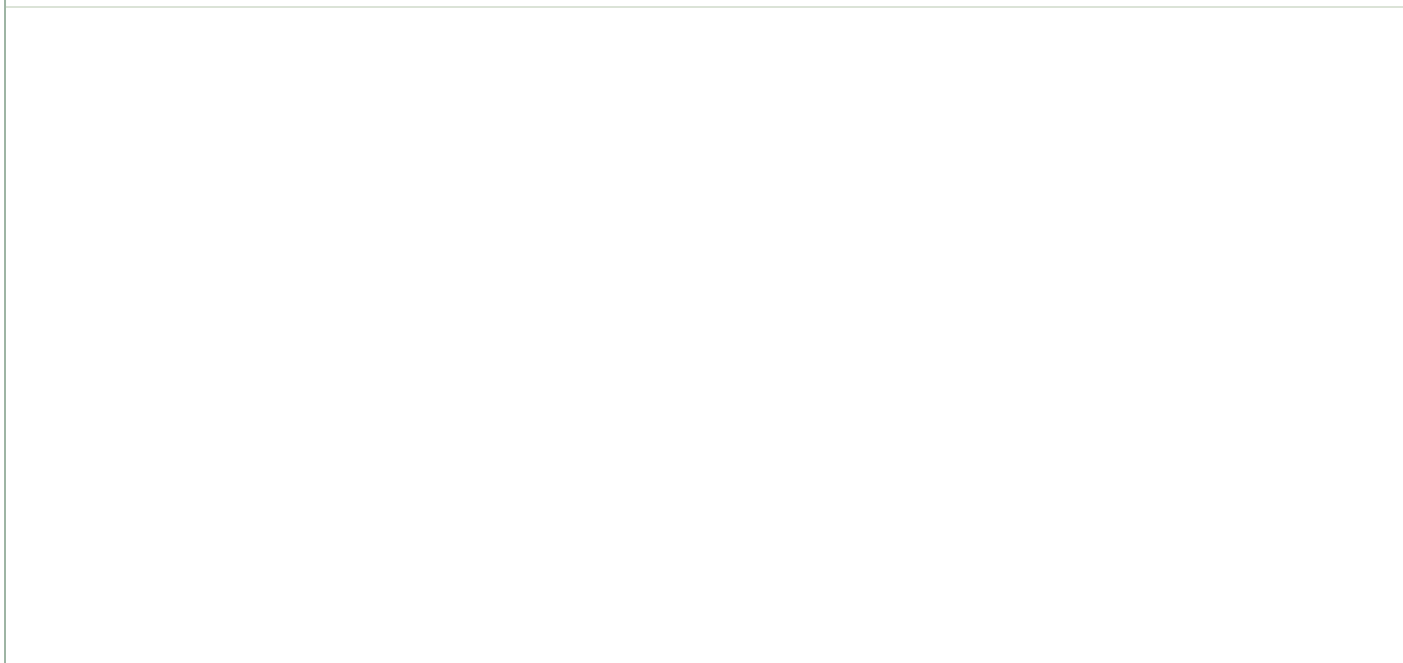
What is one small goal you can work towards?

How could a friend, coach or whānau member support you?

How will you notice your progress?

Draw yourself enjoying your chosen sport or movement.

Your drawing



Keep a sky journal

Inspired by Rangi Mātāmua. Observe the evening sky from a familiar place with your whānau. A cloudy sky is worth recording too.

When and where did you look?

What could you see: clouds, the Moon, stars or something else?

What question would you like to investigate?

Draw the sky you actually observed. Add your own labels.

Your drawing

Imagine your own future

There are many ways to contribute. Think about what you enjoy, what you care about, and what you would like to learn.

Which person in this book interested you, and why?

What would you like to learn or try?

Who could help you take your first step?

Draw yourself doing something you would love to try.

Your drawing

Sources & photographs 1

Follow the links in the digital PDF for the original factual sources and photograph records. Photographs have been resized; composition is retained. Original illustrated scenes were generated with AI and prepared as colouring artwork.

1. **Dame Whina Cooper**
 Fact: teara.govt.nz
 Photo: [Christian Heinegg](#) · [Free use with attribution](#)
2. **Sir Āpirana Ngata**
 Fact: teara.govt.nz
 Photo: [Taken by an unidentified photographer](#) · [Public domain](#)
3. **Te Puea Hērangi**
 Fact: teara.govt.nz
 Photo: [William A Price](#) · [Public domain](#)
4. **Kīngi Tūheitia Pōtatau Te Wherowhero VII**
 Fact: waikatotainui.com
 Photo: [Office of the Governor-General of New Zealand](#) · [CC BY 4.0](#)
5. **Te Arikunui Dame Te Atairangikaahu**
 Fact: teara.govt.nz
 Photo: [Rob Bogaerts for Anefo](#) · [CC BY-SA 3.0](#)
6. **Sir James Hēnare**
 Fact: teara.govt.nz
 Photo: [Photographer unknown](#) · [Public domain](#)
7. **Te Arikunui Kuini Nga wai hono i te po**
 Fact: waikatotainui.com
 Photo: [Office of the Governor-General of New Zealand](#) · [CC0 1.0](#)
8. **Te Rangi Hīroa / Sir Peter Buck**
 Fact: teara.govt.nz
 Photo: [Archives New Zealand](#) · [CC BY 2.0](#)
9. **Meri Te Tai Mangakāhia**
 Fact: nzhistory.govt.nz
 Photo: [FW Mason, photographers, Emerson St, Napier, New Zealand](#) · [Public domain](#)
10. **Ralph Hōtere**
 Fact: thearts.co.nz
 Photo: [New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General](#) · [CC BY 4.0](#)
11. **Mākereti Papakura**
 Fact: teara.govt.nz
 Photo: [Unknown author Unknown author](#) · [No known copyright restrictions](#)
12. **Cliff Whiting**
 Fact: tepapa.govt.nz
 Photo: [New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General](#) · [CC BY 4.0](#)
13. **Ngoi Pēwhairangi**
 Fact: waiata.maori.nz
 Photo: [Gisborne Herald, via Te Ara](#) · [Copyright retained by the original rights holder](#)
14. **Rob Ruha**
 Fact: thearts.co.nz
 Photo: [The Cafe \(Archive\)](#) · [CC BY 3.0](#)
15. **Dame Hinewehi Mohi**
 Fact: rmtc.org.nz
 Photo: [New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General](#) · [CC BY 4.0](#)

Photograph rights remain with their respective owners. Attribution and original source links are retained here. These biographies introduce particular people and do not claim to represent every iwi or hapū.

Sources & photographs 2

Follow the links in the digital PDF for the original factual sources and photograph records. Photographs have been resized; composition is retained. Original illustrated scenes were generated with AI and prepared as colouring artwork.

16. **Stan Walker**
[Fact: nzonscreen.com](#)
[Photo: Champochampo · CC BY-SA 4.0](#)
17. **Dame Kiri Te Kanawa**
[Fact: dpmc.govt.nz](#)
[Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General · CC0 1.0](#)
18. **Temuera Morrison**
[Fact: nzonscreen.com](#)
[Photo: John Manard · CC BY-SA 4.0](#)
19. **Keisha Castle-Hughes**
[Fact: nzonscreen.com](#)
[Photo: Sarah Said-1952 · CC BY-SA 4.0](#)
20. **Taika Waititi**
[Fact: thearts.co.nz](#)
[Photo: CaseyJNewell · CC BY-SA 4.0](#)
21. **Lisa Reihana**
[Fact: collections.tepapa.govt.nz](#)
[Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General · CC BY 4.0](#)
22. **Willie Apiata**
[Fact: nzdf.mil.nz](#)
[Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General · CC BY 4.0](#)
23. **Dame Lisa Carrington**
[Fact: olympic.org.nz](#)
[Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General · CC BY 4.0](#)
24. **Sir Ian Taylor**
[Fact: arl.co.nz](#)
[Photo: New Zealand Government, Office of the Governor-General · CC BY 4.0](#)
25. **Dame Ruia Morrison**
[Fact: amta.co.nz](#)
[Photo: Archives New Zealand · CC BY 2.0](#)
26. **Professor Rangi Mātāmua**
[Fact: royalsociety.org.nz](#)
[Photo: Royal Society Te Apārangi · CC BY-SA 4.0](#)
27. **Kendall Flutey**
[Fact: ngaitahu.iwi.nz](#)
[Photo: TE KARAKA / Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu; photographer uncredited · Copyright retained by the original rights holder](#)
28. **Dr Karaitiana Taiuru**
[Fact: taiuru.co.nz](#)
[Photo: Taiuru & Associates Ltd · Used with credit](#)
29. **Iriaka Rātana**
[Fact: beehive.govt.nz](#)
[Photo: Tesla Studio; Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand · Public domain in New Zealand \(Commons PD-New Zealand\)](#)
30. **Billy T. James**
[Fact: nzhistory.govt.nz](#)
[Photo: Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand; EP/1985/3350/26-F · Copyright retained by the original rights holder](#)

Photograph rights remain with their respective owners. Attribution and original source links are retained here. These biographies introduce particular people and do not claim to represent every iwi or hapū.