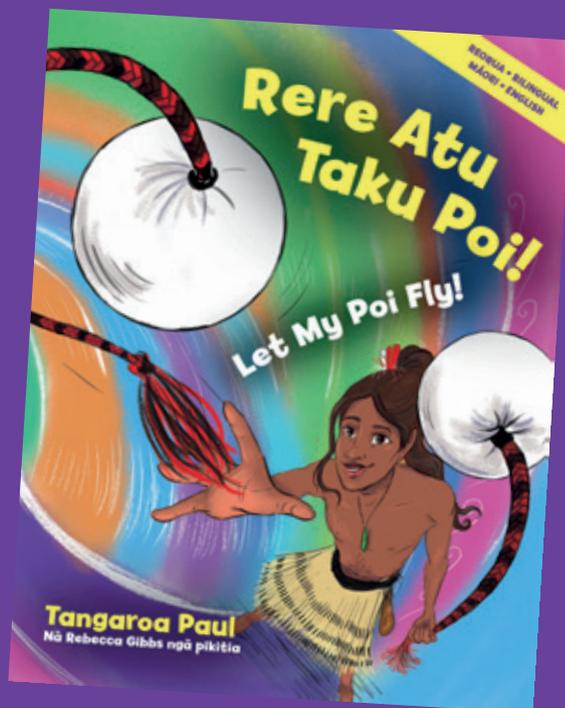


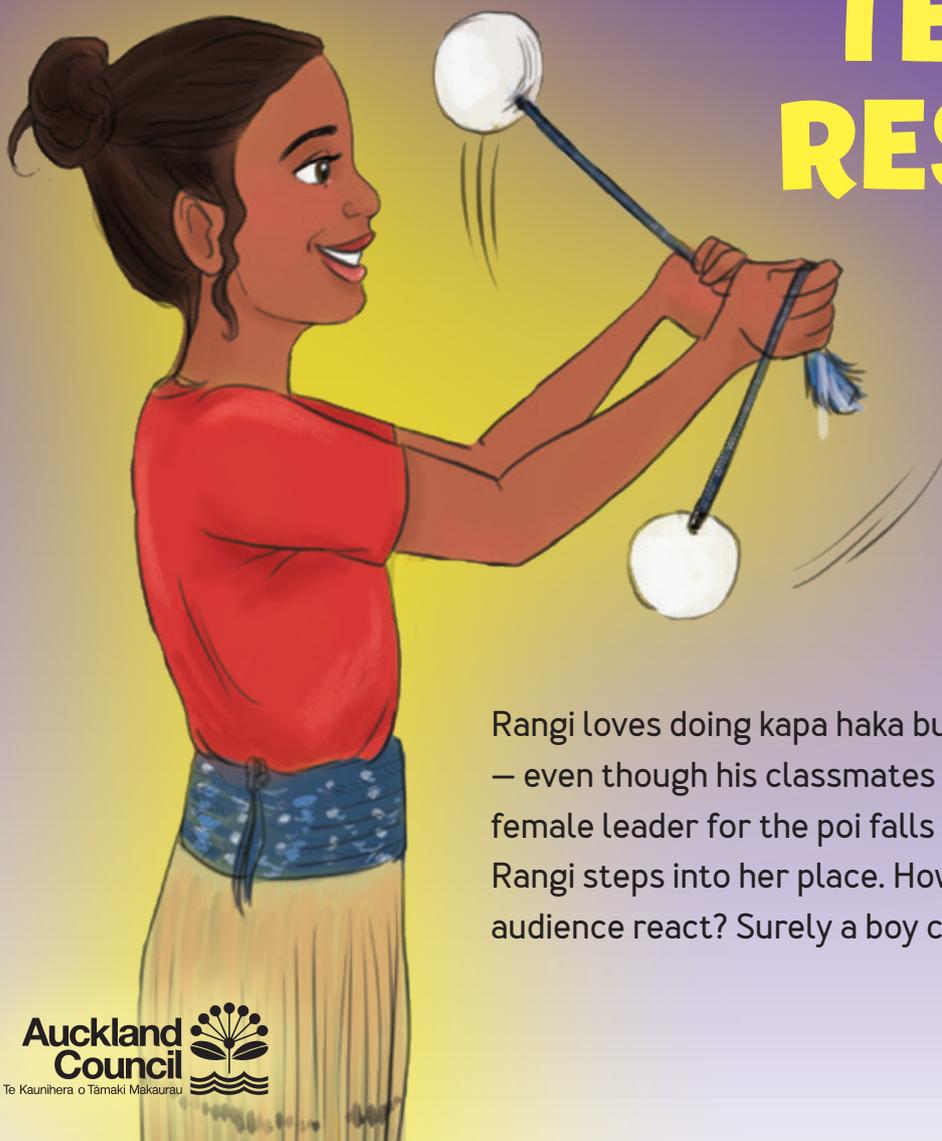
# Rere Atu Taku Poi!

## Let My Poi Fly!

**Tangaroa Paul**  
Illustrated by Rebecca Gibbs



Published by Oratia Books in  
partnership with Auckland Libraries  
ISBN: 978-1-99-004248-5



## TEACHER RESOURCE

‘Uhm, the poi is  
for girls, eah!’

Rangi loves doing kapa haka but performing poi is his favourite – even though his classmates say it’s just for girls. When the female leader for the poi falls sick before a school performance, Rangi steps into her place. How will the other students and the audience react? Surely a boy can’t lead the poi?

# Matapaki kōrero • Discussion

Discuss these topics from your point of view.

## Hauora | Health and Well-being

- Why is it important to follow your dreams?
- Why is kapa haka good for your hauora (health and well-being)?
- What else can you do to take care of your hauora?

## Tikanga ā-lwi | Social Sciences

- Why is it great to be different and unique?
- Why is it important to be kind to everyone?
- Why do you think the author has written this story about Rangī?

## Ako Reo | Learning Languages

- Do you have a favourite waiata or haka?
- When would you perform a waiata or haka?
- Do you know any greetings in other languages? In Aotearoa New Zealand, we say 'Kia ora!' What do people in other parts of the world say?



## Ngā ngohe • Activities

### 1. Tāngia koe hei tupua | Draw yourself as a tupua

A tupua is a unique, supernatural being. What would you look like as a tupua? What makes you unique? What are your special skills or superpowers? Draw a picture and share it with your class.

### 2. Hanga poi | Craft your own poi

You will need:

- stuffing, for example, cotton wool or fabric scraps
- wool – you can use different colours if you like
- a plastic bag
- tape

1. Measure and cut 9 strands of wool in two or more colours. For a short poi, the wool should be the length from your middle finger to your elbow. For a long poi, make it double the length.
2. Tie the 9 strands together with a knot at one end.
3. Divide the 9 strands into 3 groups of 3 and plait them together. Once you come close to the end, leave around 10 cm of unplaited wool and make a knot.
4. Take your filling and shape it into a ball. Tie the loose ends of your braid around it.
5. Wrap your plastic bag around the ball and secure it with tape.
6. Cut off any extra plastic.
7. Wrap a piece of wool a few times around the top of the ball and plastic and then tie a knot.
8. Ka rawe! You've made your own poi!



You can search on Google or YouTube for a video reference, for example: <https://youtu.be/bhGgw4iBUoE>

## Ngā ngohe • Activities continued

### 3. Whiu poi | Perform poi

Watch the video where Tangaroa performs the poi. Can you copy their actions? Try creating your own actions too!

Video link: <https://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/Pages/rere-atu-taku-poi.aspx>

**Bonus activity: share your performance**

Record a video of you and your friends or whānau performing poi.

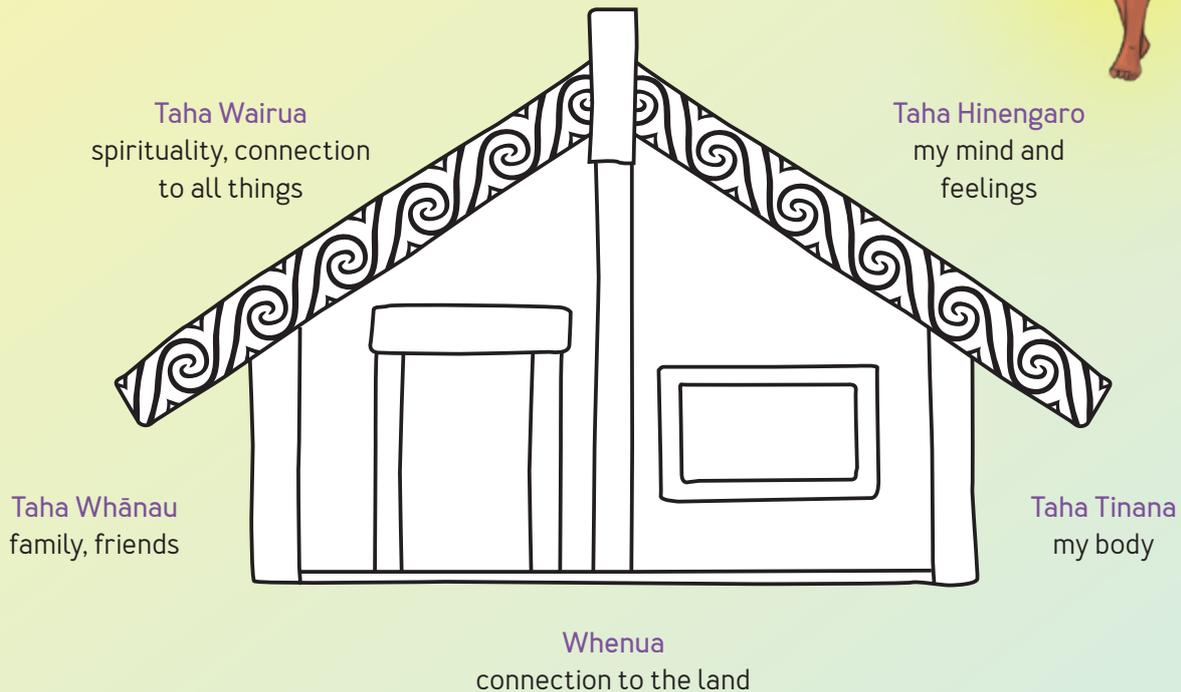
If you want, you can get dressed up and practice your pūkana and wiri!

Ask your kaiako or parents to send it to Rangi to share online

(on Instagram @rereatutakupoi or via email: [rangiatapo@gmail.com](mailto:rangiatapo@gmail.com)).



### 4. Whakakāia tō Whare Tapa Whā | Create your Whare Tapa Whā



Imagine your well-being as a house with four walls. Each wall is different and together, they help make us feel strong, healthy and happy.

Using the template of te whare/the house above, draw or write down the things that you can do to fill your whare, and that make you happy and strong. Here are some ideas to get you started.

**Taha Wairua** Spiritual health, beliefs, relationships with nature. Try some yoga, think of something you are happy or thankful for, spend time in nature, learn about your culture.

**Taha Hinengaro** Mind, heart, thoughts, feelings, communication, mental health. Be kind to someone, learn a new waiata, draw a picture, take some deep breaths.

**Taha Tinana** Physical health. Eat lots of veggies, go for a walk in the sunshine, take your dog for a run, play a ball game outside.

**Taha Whānau** Relationships, friendships, whānau, emotional health. Give someone a hug, ask your friend how they are, write a letter to your relative, learn about your whakapapa.

**Whenua** Land, roots. Walk barefoot through the grass or sand, go outside and try to spot some native plants, listen to the songs of birds and sounds of nature.

Find out more about Te Whare Tapa Whā model on the Mental Health Foundation website:

<https://mentalhealth.org.nz/te-whare-tapa-wha>

# Ngā ngohe • Activities continued

## 5. Hangaia he pānui whakaahua atawhai | Create a kindness poster

How do you feel when someone is kind to you? How do you feel when you are kind to someone? Why is it important to be kind to other people? What can you do to be kind to other people?

In a small group, create a poster that shows some of the things you can do to be kind to others. Then show your poster to the rest of your class and tell them what you like to do to be kind.

Here are some ideas to get started:

- Tell someone that they are awesome
- Smile at someone
- Offer to help someone
- Invite someone to play a game with you

## 6. Rapu kupu | Word search

He maha ngā kupu Māori e huna ana i tēnei ngohe. E hia ngā kupu ka taea e koe te rapu?

There are many kupu Māori hiding in this word search. How many can you find? [The answers are on the last page of this resource.]

**Wero / Bonus challenge** He aha te rerenga huna o roto? What is the hidden sentence?

5-6 year olds

R	E	R	E	W	H	T	R	M	I
H	N	T	R	E	O	U	A	T	U
A	I	N	K	A	H	P	E	K	A
K	H	T	A	K	U	U	K	W	M
A	I	O	H	E	P	A	T	U	R
W	A	I	A	T	A	N	P	O	I

7-8 year olds

R	E	R	E	A	O	P	I	A	O	H	I	N	E
W	A	I	O	N	E	K	E	H	A	N	G	A	A
A	H	O	T	A	T	U	N	P	A	P	A	K	I
R	O	A	I	P	O	U	A	K	A	I	T	U	W
O	I	E	R	M	A	E	T	A	K	U	P	U	H
H	A	T	I	E	M	T	A	M	A	P	A	U	A
A	W	I	R	I	T	H	O	P	E	I	P	O	I
T	A	O	N	G	A	A	P	U	O	U	R	K	T
L	E	T	E	A	T	T	P	U	A	O	T	A	E
R	T	K	T	E	A	A	O	E	M	A	U	N	M
A	A	A	M	Y	W	M	H	O	R	U	P	I	A
N	U	I	T	E	A	A	R	O	H	E	U	K	N
G	T	A	M	E	P	O	I	T	O	I	A	A	U
I	O	K	A	H	A	R	A	T	A	H	I	N	H
P	K	O	E	I	O	E	A	F	L	Y	P	I	I
O	O	E	M	A	K	A	R	A	U	N	A	H	R
W	H	A	K	A	N	G	A	H	A	U	H	O	I



The hidden sentence is:

---



---

## Ngā ngohe • Activities continued

### 7. Tuhia he reta ki a Rangi | Write a letter to Rangi

What do you think about his story? Is there anything you want to ask him? What do you want to tell Rangi about yourself? What makes you special? Rangi loves to do poi. Is there anything you really love doing?

If you like, you can mail your letter to Rangi – and he might reply! Get your kaiako or parents to help mail your letter.

Rangi's address:



### 8. Tuhia he waiata | Compose a waiata

Is there something or someone really special to you? Something or someone you just cannot stop thinking about? Using the words you know in te reo Māori, compose a waiata about what you are passionate about.

### 9. Tūria he pō hautupua | Organise a talent show

Think about your special talents, skills or superpowers. What makes you special? Are you a super singer? A powerful poi performer? A dazzling dancer? A majestic magician? A daring drummer? A sensational storyteller? With the help of your kaiako, organise a hautupua or talent show for your class. You might want to dress up, create a poster for your show and invite your whānau. Then show your amazing talents on stage and cheer on your friends!

### 10. Akonga ngā kupu Māori mō te hauora o ngā tāngata katoa | Learn some Māori words about people and well-being

Use some of these kupu Māori when talking about yourself and other people, and how you take care of yourself. You can add other words you want to remember to the list.

Kupu Māori	Kupu Pākehā	Kupu Whakaniko
āmāimai	nervous, anxious	wherū, ruha
hā ki roto, hā ki waho	breathe in, breathe out	hā, hēhē
hinengaro	mind	roro, māhunga, pīnati
māharahara	to think about, to worry	āwangawanga
tamaiti	child	taiohi, pīpī paopao, rangatahi
tinana	body	
tuakiritanga	identity	
tupua	unique, supernatural	rerekē
wairua	spirit, soul	
whānau	family	hapū, iwi, whāmere
whenua	land, roots	Papatūānuku, uta

# Guide to pronouncing Māori words

## Vowels

A	Say as the <b>a</b> in father
E	Say as the <b>e</b> in egg
I	Say as the <b>ee</b> in tree
O	Say as the <b>oor</b> in door
U	Say as the <b>oo</b> in zoo

Long vowels are shown with a macron on them (ā ē ī ō ū). The macron means that the sound of that vowel should last longer as it is said. If several vowels appear together, try to sound every vowel in turn.

## Consonants

**H K M N P W** Pronounce as in English.

**R** the true Māori pronunciation of **r** is somewhere between the English **r**, **d** and **l**. For example, 'Muriwai' could be written like 'Moodywai' and 'kōrero' as 'kōdedo' or 'kōlelo' using the English alphabet.

**T** Pronunciation depends on the vowel that follows the **t**. The **t** in **ta**, **te** and **to** is pronounced dully as a cross between the English **t** and **d**. The **t** in **ti** and **tu** is sharper and is not softened by a 'd' sound.

**Ng** Say as the **ng** in sing.

**Wh** Say as a cross between the **wh** in which (where both the **w** and the **h** are sounded) and the **f** in family.

## Using this book in New Zealand classrooms

### He Whakamahinga • Curriculum Links

This book connects to several learning areas of the New Zealand Curriculum. The topics of personal identity, mental health, and physical activity link to the Health and Physical Education learning area, as does the philosophy of hauora and the well-being model of Te Whare Tapa Whā. The diversity and inclusion themes, and how people and communities have diverse perspectives, values, and viewpoints connect to the Social Sciences learning area. *Rere Atu Taku Poi!* is a bilingual te reo Māori and English book and can be used towards the **Learning Languages** learning area, and the 'Cultural knowledge' achievement objective.

Concepts and principles explored in this story range from identity, gender, the acceptance of diversity, bullying, to learning about te ao Māori concepts. It encourages educators and students to explore the notion of accepting and respecting oneself and others' differences and uniqueness.

*Rere Atu Taku Poi!* highlights several key competencies of the New Zealand Curriculum throughout the story, including Relating to Others; Participating and Contributing; Using Language, Symbols and Texts; and Thinking.



# Resources for teachers

## Videos – *Rere Atu Taku Poi!*

This collection includes a reading of *Rere Atu Taku Poi!* in te reo Māori and English, a poi performance by the author, and a short interview (for adults):

<https://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/Pages/rere-atu-taku-poi.aspx>

## Te Whare Tapa Whā

Te Whare Tapa Whā is a health and well-being model that was developed by Sir Mason Durie, a leading Māori health advocate. It describes health and well-being as a whareniui with four walls. Read more about the Te Whare Tapa Whā model on the Mental Health Foundation's website:

<https://mentalhealth.org.nz/te-whare-tapa-wha>

## Connecting with Rangī

If you want to connect with Rangī (the fictional book character) or send him a message, you can contact him via email ([rangiatapo@gmail.com](mailto:rangiatapo@gmail.com)) or on Instagram @rereatutakupoi. If you are sharing your students' work, images or videos, please specify if we have permission to share it on social media. You can also send letters to Rangī via this address:

Attn: Rangī Atapō / Content Development and Engagement  
Auckland Libraries  
Central City Library  
PO Box 4138  
Shortland Street  
Auckland 1140

The publisher acknowledges the generous support of Creative New Zealand for the publication of *Rere Atu Taku Poi!*

## Answers to Rapu Kupu • Word Search

### 5-6 year olds

Ngā kupu huna/hidden words: HAKA, WAIATA, TUPUA, KAHA, HINE, REO, PATU

Te rerenga huna/hidden sentence: RERE ATU TAKU POI

### 7-8 year olds

Ngā kupu huna/hidden words: WHARE TAPERE, WHAKANGAHAU, MANUHIRI, TUPUA, KANIKANI, RANGI, HINE, KAIAKO, TAUTOKO, AROHA, PAPAHI, TAONGA, PIUPIU, MAKARAUNA, TAMA, POUAKA, WIRI, HOPE

Te rerenga huna/hidden sentence: RERE ATU TAKU POI, LET MY POI FLY

This teacher resource may be reproduced for use in school activities. It may not be redistributed for commercial sale or posted to other networks.  
Copyright © 2024 Oratia Books.  
For more resources go to <https://www.oratia.co.nz/teacher-resources/>

Keep your eyes peeled, there are a lot more kupu hiding!