Waikato Museum, Te Whare Taonga o Waikato is the artistic and cultural heart of our city. We value and celebrate our rich and diverse cultural heritage and our region's artistic vibrancy and flair for scientific innovation.

Waikato Museum is an ideal place for learning and enrichment.

Our programmes extend the learning environment beyond the classroom for both students and teachers. We have developed relevant and useful teachers’ notes and can tailor unique classes to meet the needs of our visiting education groups. These provide stimulating learning experiences related to the exhibitions and tours described.

Te Whaanau Maarama shines the spotlight on Māori astronomy and examines the traditional Māori societal view of the night sky and how it is being revitalised in the modern world. It opens the door on tuning into the stars and a better understanding of the history and meaning of Matariki.

In three sections, the exhibition examines the origins of Māori astronomy and how the various bodies of light came to be in the sky, the connection between the stars and the earth, includes images of the stars and various traditional implements and modern Māori astronomy, in particular the evolution of Matariki in the past 20 years.

Our 2 to 2 ½ hour schools session starts with a classroom overview of basic astronomical facts and an introduction to the language of the exhibition, an exhibition tour and focus activity and a hands-on session where children make a small memento to take with them as a reminder of their museum visit.

If you want to make the most of your day we can combine other options such as Milk Matters and Exscite or Hamilton History Tour and Museum Eye Spy. Contact us to look at the various education options.

Please note: Waikato Museum and Hamilton City Council use double vowels in te Reo Māori to represent a long vowel sound as it is the preference of Waikato-Tainui.
People use these competencies to live, learn, work, and contribute as active members of their communities. They are the key to learning in every area. Museum learners will become confident, connected, actively involved, life-long learners.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Competency Outcomes</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thinking</td>
<td>Use creative and critical thinking to make sense of the information, experiences and ideas explored in the Museum.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Using Language, Symbols and Text</td>
<td>Students will make meaning of the language, symbols, text and specific terminology of the Museum.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relating to Others</td>
<td>Interact effectively with a diverse range of people in different and new contexts. Listen actively and share ideas in the Museum.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participating and Contributing</td>
<td>Understand the role of the Museum in the local and wider community. Develop a sense of belonging and confidence to participate within new contexts. Make connections between exhibitions and their relevance to local, national and global environments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Managing Self</td>
<td>Students will see themselves as capable learners who develop strategies for meeting challenges. Students develop a can-do attitude with increasing independence.</td>
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</tbody>
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**Vision:**
Young people who will be confident, connected, actively involved, lifelong learners.

**Values:**
- Excellence
- Innovation, inquiry, and curiosity
- Diversity
- Equity
- Community and participation
- Ecological sustainability
- Integrity
- Respect

**Key Competencies**
- Thinking
- Using language, symbols and text
- Managing self
- Relating to others
- Participating and contributing

**Learning Areas**
- English
- The arts
- Health and physical education
- Learning languages
- Mathematics and statistics
- Science
- Social Sciences
- Technology

**Principles:**
- High expectations, Treaty of Waitangi, cultural diversity, inclusion, learning to learn, community engagement, coherence, future focus
Specific learning experiences

We can work with you to develop the specific learning outcomes for your lesson. Some suggested outcomes for students might be that they will:

- Understand what Te Whaanau Maarama is and its importance to Maaori
- Explore the cultural history of Maaori astronomy and Matariki
- Learn about some of the myths and legends surrounding the night sky
- Create an art/craft work that reflects the exhibition

Thematic Learning Suggestions

- **English:** Diaries, story writing, poetry and songs. Explore visual language
- **Mathematics:** Recording of data, coordinates, graphing and mapping, measurement of time and length
- **Science:** Planet Earth and beyond, stars and constellations, the solar system, ancient time keeping, how objects in the sky influence the Earth
- **Social Science:** Cultural celebrations, how the past is remembered, recorded and shared, oral histories, myths and legends
- **The Arts:** Maaori dance and haka, traditional Maaori art and design compared and contrasted with contemporary images, poi and kite making
- **Technology:** Navigational tools both historical and modern, telescopes, food cultivation practices, space exploration and related technologies
- **Learning Languages:** Te reo Maaori names for the various heavenly bodies, language of songs and karakia used at different times of the day or for different purposes
- **Health and Physical Education:** Food and cooking styles, Maaori dance and haka, traditional Maaori sports and games
**Suggested pre-visit activities**

- Learn about the stars and planets in our solar system
- Create a brainstorm of ideas about their current knowledge of Matariki or the uses of the sky and its inhabitant
- Develop a set of questions they would like to find answers for
- Explore various myths and legends surrounding the sky/stars both from New Zealand and internationally

**Suggested post-visit reflection activities**

- Compare the pre-visit question chart with what was learned at the Museum and develop further questions they would like to research or ask an expert about
- Use a compass to locate direction, explore where objects may be found in the sky and their travel paths
- Role play the story of the creation of the heavens, explore the role of the different gods in the story
- Explore other cultural creation myths or star myths and compare
- Create a myth that might explain how the stars, sun or moon came to be
- Create a feast to celebrate the Maori New Year - explore traditional foods and preparation methods
- Hold a ‘star watch’ over the time of Matariki (possibly at school) and see if they can locate the constellation
- Create an ancestors wall with pictures/drawings of people in their family who have passed. Share stories about their family as far back as they can go
- Learn some traditional waiata, haka, poi dance or raakau as part of the new year’s celebration

**Related links**

**Example star maps**

- [astronomyinyourhands.com/starwheel/starwheel.html](astronomyinyourhands.com/starwheel/starwheel.html)
- [astronomyinyourhands.com/starwheel/maoriwheel.gif](astronomyinyourhands.com/starwheel/maoriwheel.gif)

**Information on the Maori calendar**


**Resources**

- [my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/matariki/](my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/matariki/)

**Information about Matariki**

- [carterobservatory.org/](carterobservatory.org/)
- [hana.co.nz/summer_notes.pdf](hana.co.nz/summer_notes.pdf)
- [teapot.orcon.net.nz/maori_star_names.html](teapot.orcon.net.nz/maori_star_names.html)
- [astronomynz.org.nz/maori/maori.htm](astronomynz.org.nz/maori/maori.htm)
- [hastingsdc.govt.nz/libraries/FeatureMatariki.htm](hastingsdc.govt.nz/libraries/FeatureMatariki.htm)
- [tepapa.govt.nz/Education/OnlineResources/Matariki/Pages/overview.aspx](tepapa.govt.nz/Education/OnlineResources/Matariki/Pages/overview.aspx)
- [tepapa.govt.nz/education/onlineresources/matariki/Pages/overview.aspx](tepapa.govt.nz/education/onlineresources/matariki/Pages/overview.aspx)
Before you arrive

We will email you a booking sheet with the information we require, your booking will be confirmed once we receive it back.

Health and safety guidelines and RAMS information are available to download through our website.

Please discuss with the Education Manager your timetable and organisation for your visit. If possible, arrange for your group to leave their bags at school or on the bus as we have limited storage in the Museum.

Discuss photography with the Museum educators as there are different conditions for every exhibition.

If you require disabled parking and access, discuss this at the time of your booking and we can ensure we meet your needs.

When you arrive

- Bring your group to the School Entrance at the top right of the Museum. Your educator will meet you.
- Bus parking is available near the school entrance on Grantham Street. School vans may also use the bus parking area.
- There is limited three hour paid parking in the Museum car park off Victoria Street (entrance beside Arts Post) and Knox Street open air car park. Only a few minutes walk from the museum are the Knox Street and Alexandra Street car parking building.
- We supply any pencils, paper or other equipment that you may need for your visit however students, teachers and supervisors are encouraged to bring IT devices to support their learning. (Please note there is no Wi-Fi in the Museum.)

Late arrivals

We regret that in most cases we cannot extend your lesson time beyond the time that has been booked as our educators may have multiple commitments throughout a day.

At the conclusion of your visit

Please sign off the numbers of children in your group and details of payment with the educators.

We appreciate knowing what we are doing well and to hear any suggestions you may have for improvement. We encourage teachers to communicate with us about their visit experiences and will be sending out a post-visit email with a survey attached. We hope you will take the opportunity to feed back about the programme; we appreciate your time and comments.

Students are also encouraged to communicate with us, ask questions or send samples of work done on the theme via our web email. We are happy to act as 'experts' as another learning link for your class.