

AUCKLAND
THEATRE
COMPANY

ASB

Partners with passion.

MYTHMAKERS 2017

MĀUI ME TE RĀ

ACTIVITY PACK

TEACHER'S GUIDE — USING THIS MYTHMAKERS ACTIVITY PACK

This Activity Pack is designed to be used in two sections; one – to prepare your students to see a Mythmakers performance, and two – to discuss it afterwards. The pack offers the opportunity to engage your students with all aspects of the New Zealand Curriculum's key competencies:

- thinking
- using language, symbols, and texts
- managing self
- relating to others
- participating and contributing

The Activity Pack encourages students to express opinions, and to create their own theatrical pieces in response to the show.

HAVE YOU BEEN TO A LIVE THEATRE SHOW BEFORE?

Talk to your students about what to expect.

What do they already know about theatre / performing arts?

What is the audience's role in the show? How should they behave?
(Staying seated, watching and listening.)

What interaction with the performers is appropriate?
(Laughing, clapping, answering questions, singing along... Participating and contributing!)

What sorts of questions might they want to ask the performers at the end of the show?

What do they know about the story of Māui and the Sun? (characters, setting, plot)

Based on what they know, what are they expecting to see in this play?

What are they wondering about this play?

THEATRE PROCESSES

Puppets

Puppets are a major element of this production.

Discuss puppets with your students: who has made a puppet before? What are the different ways puppets can be made and used? What makes an effective puppet?

Staging

This play is presented in traverse – with the audience facing each other on opposite sides of the space. Encourage your students to think about use of space: how are the audience placed in relation to the actors? How do the actors use the space / their bodies / props to show different locations / scenarios?

Music

There's lots of live music and waiata (song) in this play. Here's some things to think about when you are watching the play:

How is music woven into the story? Why is it important?

What impact does the music have on the mood (feeling) and how does it change it?

USING LANGUAGE – FOCUS ON TE REO MĀORI

Let your students know that some of the show will be in Te Reo Māori. Encourage Te Reo speakers to help others understand. Encourage non-speakers to develop skills in approaching the Te Reo sections.

- 'Reading' context – what meanings could they work out from what was happening in the scene?
- Help them use a glossary / other translation reference to find meanings for words and phrases
- Introduce other Māui myths, such as Te Ika a Māui
- Learn a song in Te Reo Māori – such as the song on page 11.

SECTION 2

AFTER YOU'VE
SEEN THE SHOW

PUPPETS...

Some characters in the show were created using puppets. Which do you remember?

Which puppet was your favourite? Why did you like it?

How many people are manipulating this puppet here? Why are they doing it this way?



Puppets have been used in shows for thousands of years! There are lots of different types of puppets – finger puppets, sock puppets, marionettes (which are puppets on strings). Puppets can be made of anything: socks, boxes, paper bags, string, plumbing pipe, popsicle sticks...



MAKE YOUR OWN

You can make character puppets in these styles too! Choose a character from the Maui myth – and make your puppet version.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Remember, it takes more than just the puppet to make the character! The person moving the puppet is called the puppeteer. As a builder and puppeteer, you need to think about:

- How will you make it strong so it doesn't break?
- How will you move your puppet?
- How will your puppet show their character and emotions? (Remember, body language speaks louder than words!)

Find a friend and have a "puppet chat" with your two characters.

- What 'voice' do each of the puppets have?
- How do they show how they feel about the topic they're talking about?
- How do they 'relate' to each other? Do they touch?

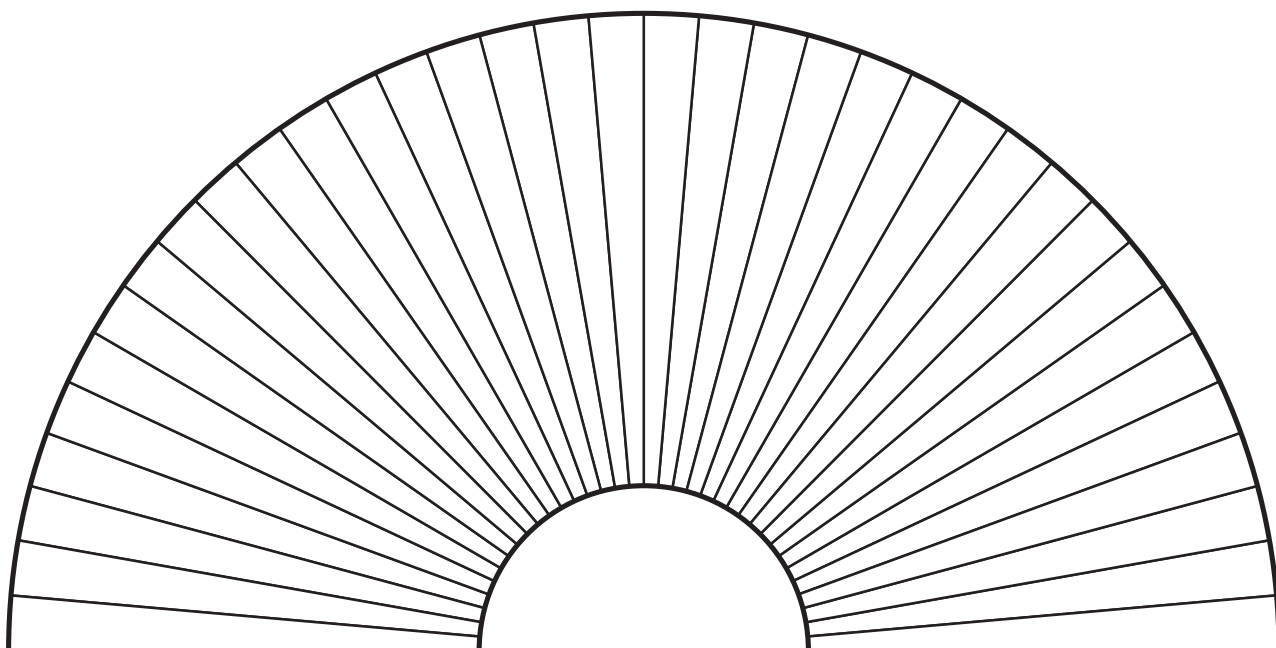
...AND PROPS

The puppets weren't the only things used to tell the story! What other props can you remember? Write one down, and say what it was used for in the show.



MAKE YOUR OWN

Here is a template (drawing to copy) for a paper fan, like the ones used to make the sun in the show. Trace two copies onto a new piece of paper, colour them in, cut them out, and fold them to make your own sun!



TE REO MĀORI

The actors in the play speak in Te Reo Māori as well as English. Te Reo Māori is an official language in Aotearoa. What Māori words do you already know? Even if you've never learned Māori, you might know a few words, like "Kia ora" or "haka" or "hāngi"!

MĀORI MATCH

Here are some of the words of Te Reo Māori you will have heard in the show. See if you can match all the Maori words with their meaning in English by drawing a line from one to the other...

Turituri

Whakarongo mai

E Noho

E Tū

Titiro

Titiro mai

Whai mai I ahau

Matau

Māui

Kākite

Listen to me

Look here

Goodbye

Sit down

Follow me

Left

Right

Look

Be quiet

Stand up

MĀORI MIHI

Maui introduces himself by saying "Ko Māui ahau" (I am Māui) or "Ko Māui toku ingoa" (My name is Māui)

YOUR TURN: Introduce yourself in Te Reo Māori like Māui (with your name of course!)

In tikanga Māori, it is important to be able to tell people about your whanau (family) and whakapapa (family history). Fill in the family tree on the next page (you could even draw pictures or stick photos on to make it look really good!) "My mother's name is Sofia." – and then learn how to say them in Te Reo Māori. "Ko te ingoa o toku whaea Sophia."

MY FAMILY TREE

Grandmother

Grandfather

Grandmother

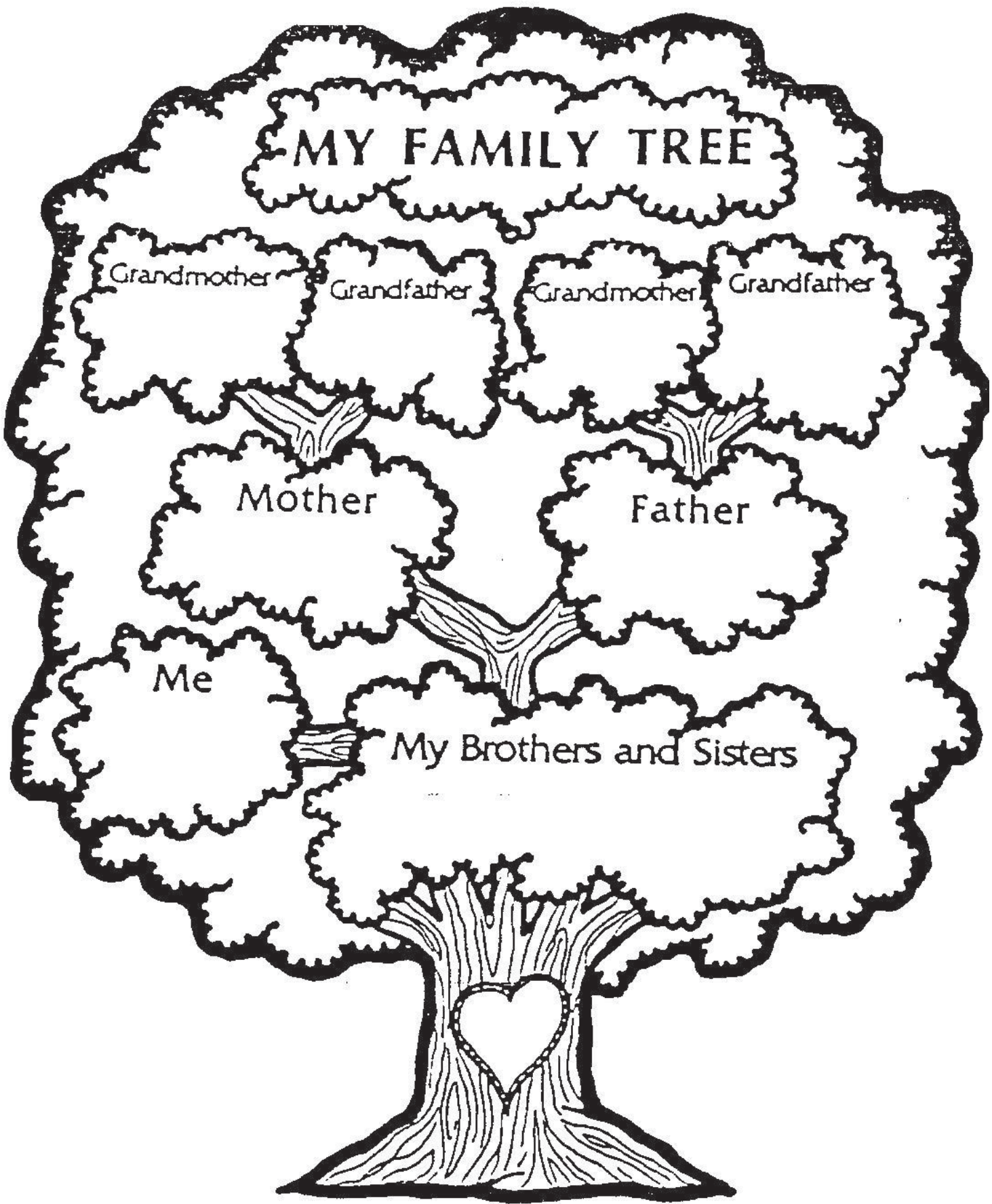
Grandfather

Mother

Father

Me

My Brothers and Sisters



TRAVEL SONG

(Intro over spoken dialogue:
D - D/E - D/G - D)

C
We're off to catch the sun

/D
Tamanui-Te-Ra

F
We're gonna slow him down

C
You and me, together!

Am G
Whiria he tāura nui

C F
Big enough to catch the sun

Am G
Whiria he tāura roa

C F
Long enough to reach the stars

Am G
Whiria he tāura kaha

C F
Strong enough to bring him down

Bb
He tāura toa

G
You and me, we're brave enough to bring

C-D-F
A longer day!



A SCENE FROM MĀUI ME TE RĀ

Choose one moment that you really liked from the show, and draw a picture of it here.

What were the most interesting things happening in the scene, and how can you show these in your image?



EXTENSION

Develop your artwork. Try using different media – such as paint, or collage, or printing – to create a work of art that shows your Māui scene.

Perhaps your class or group could recreate the Māui Me Te Rā story as a book, putting everyone's scenes in order to tell the whole story!

MĀUI ME TE RĀ

BY RUTENE SPOONER

CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR

Holly Chappell

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Rutene Spooner

PUPPET AND PROP DESIGNER/MAKER

Sarah-Jane Blake

COSTUME DESIGNER

Sheridan Miller

STAGE MANAGER

Natasha Lay

TOUR COORDINATOR

Tanya Muagututi'a

ATC ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Lynne Cardy

ACTIVITY PACK WRITER

Amber McWilliams

CAST

Christel Chapman — Ensemble

Jade Daniels — MĀUI/ Ensemble

Justin Rodgers — KUIA/Ensemble

Originally co-created with Holly Chappell and devised with Tainui Kuru, Kim Garrett and Susan Berry.

First produced for Auckland Theatre Company on May 8, 2017.

Originally produced with The Court Theatre, Christchurch, New Zealand.

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

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