

MATARIKI

*Matariki hunga, Matariki ahunga nui.
Matariki has many admirers,
Matariki brings us together.*

I am the star Matariki. I am the mother and Rehua the father, of the Matariki star cluster.

When you see me high and bright in the night sky, I will bring you wellbeing and good luck.



TAKURUA

SIRIUS, ALPHA CANIS MAJORIS, HIP 32349

Constellation: Canis Major
Spectral type: A0, main sequence binary system
Declination: $-16^{\circ} 42' 58.02''$
Apparent magnitude: -1.46
Distance: 8.6 light-years
Mass: $2 M_{\odot}$
Temperature: 9,845 K
Luminosity: $24 L_{\odot}$

Takurua, also known as Sirius, is the brightest star in the night sky. Takurua is said to be the winter wife of the Sun as the pair are close during the colder months. Takurua is visible in the winter



PUANGA

*Puanga kai rau.
When Puanga rises, food will be abundant.*

I am the star Puanga. I am the older sibling of Takurua and Matariki. Some say that I am jealous of the attention Matariki receives and that is why I race to be first in the night sky. Because I appear before Matariki, maybe I welcome in the New Year?



WAIPUNA-Ā-RANGI

*Matariki tāpuapua.
The Pools of Matariki.*

I am the star Waipuna-ā-rangi and I link the Matariki star cluster to the coming of rain. The proverb Matariki tāpuapua refers to the rainy winter season, coinciding with the appearance of Matariki in the sky.



URURANGI

*Ko ngā hau ki ētahi wāhi; Ko ngā kai kei Orariki.
No matter which way the wind blows (or the season), one can always procure food at Taumutu.*

I am Ururangi. I am the star who will determine the winds for the coming year.



HIWA-I-TE-RANGI

*Kua ara ake ahau i te papa o te whenua
Kua kite ahau i ngā whetū e tūtaki tahi ana
Ko Matariki te kairūri
Ko Atutahi kei te taumata o te mangōroa*

The scope of our imagination is from the earth to the stars.
Professor Te Wharehūia Milroy, Kura Reo ki Te Waiapuānui, 2024

My name is Hiwa-i-te-rangi and I am the star who is connected to the promise of a prosperous season. You may call me a 'wishing star'.



PŌHUTUKAWA

I am Pōhutukawa, the oldest star in the Matariki cluster. I am associated with those who have died. When the Matariki star cluster is in the night sky, we should take time to remember those who have passed away – particularly in the preceding year.



TUPU-Ā-RANGI

*Ka rawe koe e ngā kai i taona e Rehua.
How wonderful you are, the foods cooked by Rehua.*

I am the star Tupu-ā-rangi. I connect with food that 'comes from the sky', such as the birds, and berries and other fruits of the forest. When you see me bright in the sky the coming year will be a good one for harvesting berries and hunting birds.



TUPU-Ā-NUKU

*Ngā kai a Matariki, nāna i ao ake ki runga.
The foods of Matariki, gathered up by her.*

My name is Tupu-ā-nuku. I am the star connected to foods grown in the ground, both cultivated and wild. When you see me bright and clear, I hold the promise of a warm and successful growing season.



WAITĪ

*Ka ora te wai, ka ora te whenua,
ka ora ngā tāngata.
If the water is healthy, the land is healthy, the people are healthy.*

My name is Waitī. I have a special connection to all those creatures living in fresh water – the rivers, streams and lakes.



WAITĀ

*Ka whakahotū ngā tai, ka nui te ika.
Regular tides, lots of fish.*

My name is Waitā. I am the star who is associated with the ocean and the numerous types of food gathered from the sea.

