

The National Library of New Zealand
Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa

PRECIOUS

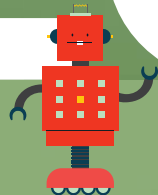
He aha te Mea Nui ki a koe?
What's precious to you?

He Tohu

A DECLARATION | A TREATY | A PETITION



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government



MIHIMIHI

Ka tuia te rangi i runga nei.

Bound to the sky above.

Ka tuia te papa i raro.

Bound to the earth.

Ka tuia te maunga whakahī e karapoti nei.

Bound to the mountain that stands proudly.

Ko Te Ahumairangi.

Te Ahumairangi.

Ahu atu ana ki te awa o Tiakiwai.

And the waters of Tiakiwai that extend out before us.

Nau mai, haere mai ki Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa.

Welcome to the National Library of New Zealand.

Tēnei whare e whakaahuru nei.

This safe place that stands as guardian.

I ngā taonga a kui mā, a koro mā.

For the taonga housed within left by our forefathers.

Aupiki mai ki te whakaaturanga o He Tohu.

Ascend to the place where He Tohu lives.

Areare mai ōu taringa ki wēnei kōrero.

Let your ears receive these words.

Hei arataki i a koutou.

A guide for you all.

Nō reira.

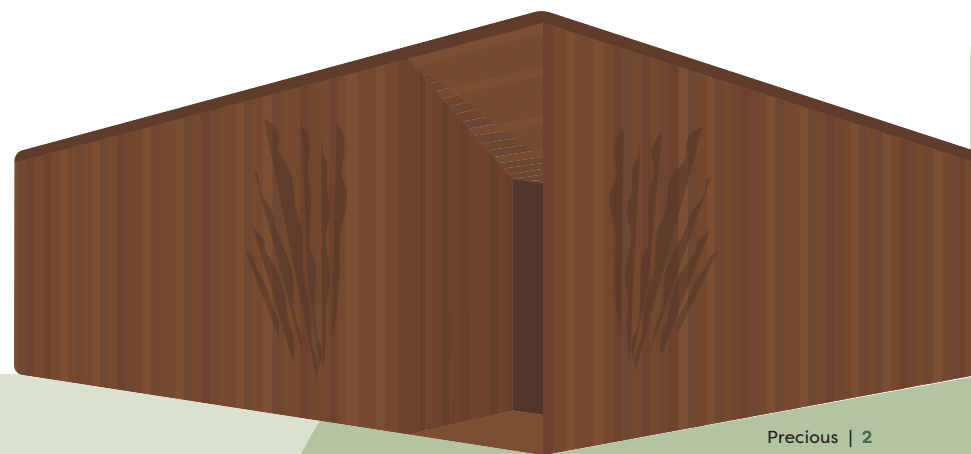
Therefore.

E ngā mana. E ngā reo.

All authorities, all voices (all people).

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

We greet you.



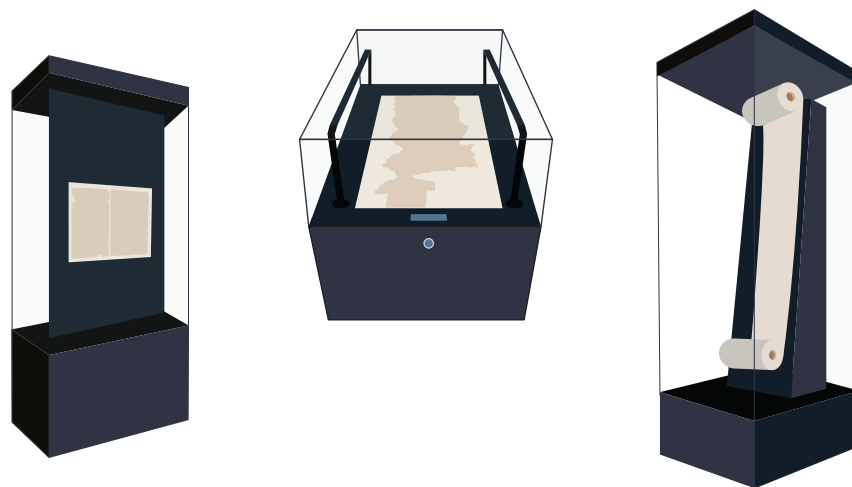
NAU MAI, HAERE MAI

Welcome everyone!

This book will guide you through a basic understanding of the role of libraries, museums and galleries in caring for the precious objects of Aotearoa New Zealand. It will also guide you through finding and caring for and exhibiting your own precious object.

The National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa collects books, paintings, illustrations, social media and even comics and cartoons as well as other precious objects that relate to Aotearoa, New Zealand. These are the taonga of our nation.

The whakatauki (proverb) for *He Tohu* is 'He whakapapa kōrero, He whenua kura', which means 'talking about the past to create a better future' - understanding our history and empowering people to create a positive future for Aotearoa New Zealand.



Three of Aotearoa's most significant taonga are on display at the National Library in the exhibition *He Tohu: a declaration, a treaty and a petition*. The three documents are; He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirenī - the Declaration of Independence (1835), Te Tiriti o Waitangi - the Treaty of Waitangi (1840) and Te Petihana Whakamana Poti Wahine - Women's Suffrage Petition (1893).

★ These three documents are important as they show what is possible when people come together for a common cause. They have shaped our country since their signing over 150 years ago.

As the kaupupuri (caretakers) of these important documents, the National Library and Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga welcome you to join us on this *Precious* learning journey.

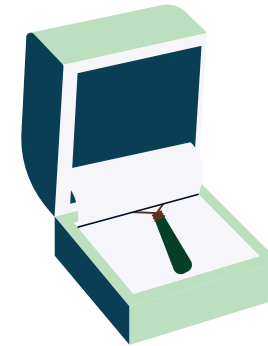
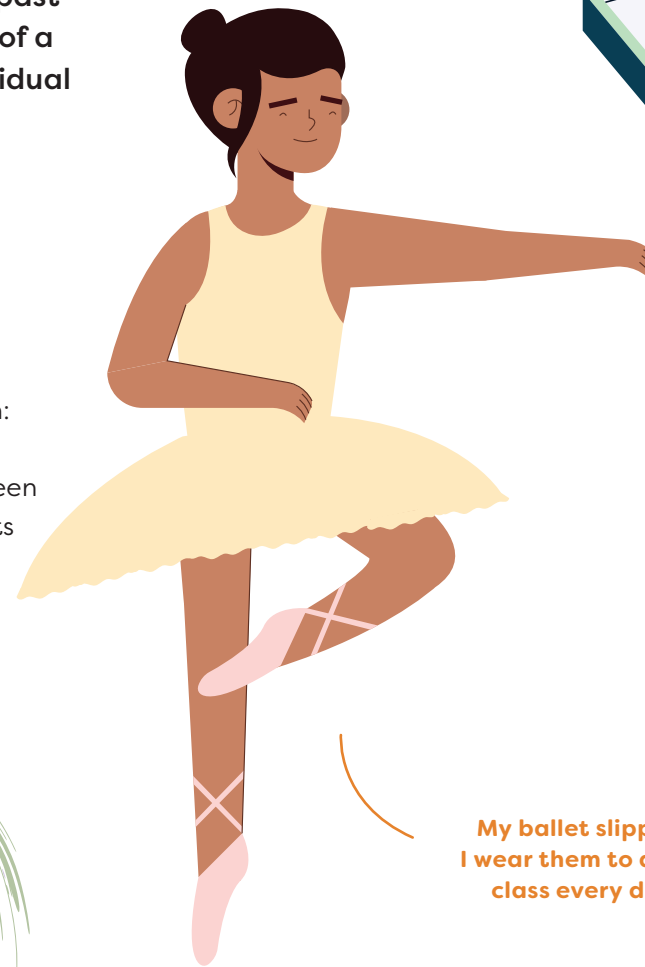
TŌ TAONGA

Your Taonga

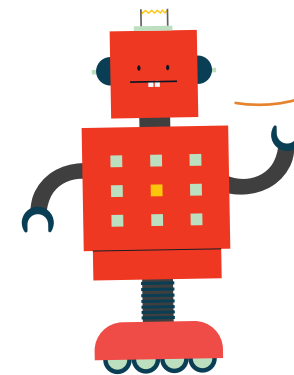
Your precious objects and those taonga in museum and library collections also help us think about and understand the past so we can better navigate the future. They tell the story of a person or a place – what was important to us as an individual or a nation at that time.

We're keen to learn about the taonga or precious objects that have shaped you. By exploring the activities in this book you can discover why we consider some things precious, as well as uncover and share your own precious objects and their stories.

To find your precious object you'll take some of the same steps a museum curator or librarian would when preparing an exhibition: taking a photo, doing a condition report and learning how to care for it so that it can be passed on to the next generation. We are keen for you to discover more about yourself, your values and the objects in your world.



Matau necklace
that koro made
for me



My favourite toy
I've had since
I was little

My ballet slippers.
I wear them to dance
class every day!

KO WAI AHAU?

Who am I?

Before you start looking for your precious object, let's start by acknowledging the most important thing in your world – you!

A pepeha is a way of thinking about yourself and your place in the world. A pepeha tells the story of the people and places you are connected to. Ask your parents or whānau where your ancestors came from and what places they feel a close connection with.

Choose one of the two templates to complete.

Tōku pepeha

- Ko _____ te waka
- Ko _____ te maunga
- Ko _____ te awa
- Ko _____ te marae
- Ko _____ te iwi
- Ko _____ te hapū
- Ko _____ tōku ingoa

My pepeha

- Ko _____ te maunga e rū nei taku ngākau
is the mountain that speaks to my heart
- Ko _____ te awa e mahea nei aku māharahara
is the river that alleviates my worries
- Nō _____ ahau
I am from
- Ko _____ tōku ingoa
My name is

This pepeha template is inclusive of tauwi, which means non-Māori or those from afar.

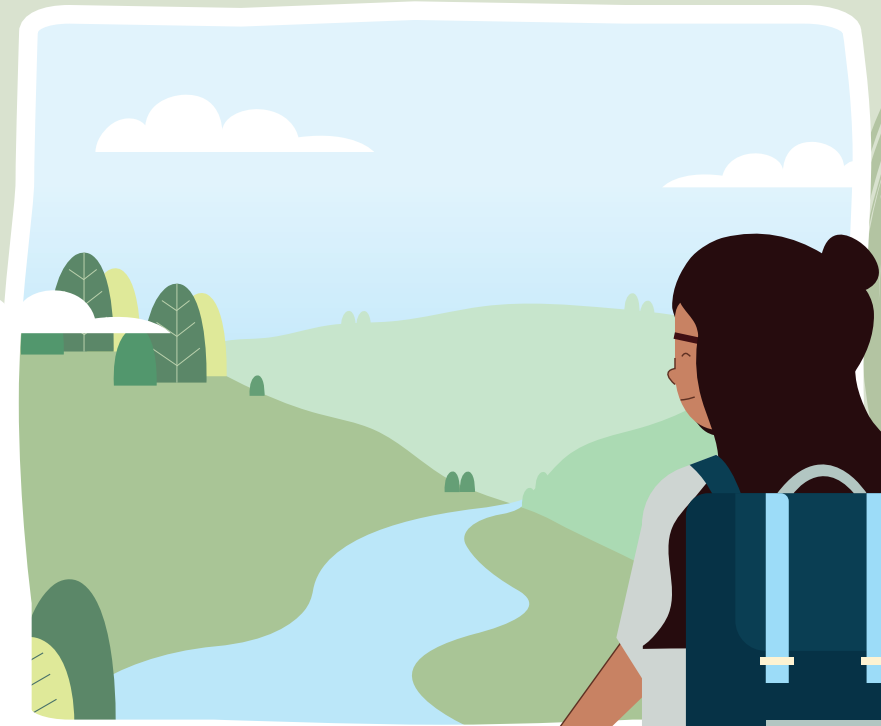


TŌ WĀHI MOTUHAKE

Your special place

Draw or write something about your special natural place here.

➤ Why is it important to you, what makes it special?



I mōhio rānei koe? Did you know?

Sometimes our surname can help uncover things about our family history.

Where does your family name come from?

Who could you ask to find out more about your name?

**Does your name have a special meaning?
Is there a story related to your name?**

You may like to ask a family member about where your ancestors came from, and what places they feel a close connection with.

TE PUNA MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

The National Library of New Zealand

The National Library has a huge amount of information about New Zealand places, names, events and objects. Do a quick search to see what you can find about your family, your iwi or where you live.

Go to this
website

natlib.govt.nz

Use the search bar (it's in the top right corner with a magnifying glass) put in the suggested places, names and dates below and see what comes up.

search 

...**your birth place.** How many hits came up? Are there any images?

E.g. Tauranga

...**your family surname.** Did something surprising come up?

E.g. Johnston

...**the year you were born.** What came up?

E.g. 2010

What did you find out?

➤ Note anything interesting or print out images and information to stick here.

★ Bonus activity: What is your local library or museum?

Research their collection database and discover even more about your local rohe (area) or about your whānau or others in the community.

KO KOE HE MĀPIHI MAUREA!

You are a treasure!

The next step in identifying the taonga in your life is to start thinking more deeply about yourself and your values.



What do you really care about?

➤ Draw, write or make a vision board here



What are you really good at?

➤ Draw, write or make a vision board here



HE AHA TŌ TINO TAONGA?

What makes something precious?

We are all different and what may be precious to one person may not be precious to someone else. Sometimes it is about how much something cost, maybe it is made of a precious material like gold. It could be precious because of how rare it is. There may only be a few of them in the world or perhaps because of who made it or who it used to belong to. It may be precious because of the memories associated with it.

Do you have something which is precious to you but is not an object? For some people it is an idea or value that is precious. Things like time, being healthy, happiness, community, the environment or whānau - we might use an object as a way of reminding us of how precious these ideas are to us.

What do children in Aotearoa New Zealand find precious?

In 2020, the National Library worked with children from 7 different schools in Wellington to co-design an exhibition that shared their stories through the precious object they chose. From pets to musical instruments, clothing to carvings, each story was as precious and unique as the student who shared it.

Check out the photos of the exhibition - maybe your school could have your own Precious exhibition?

 natlib.govt.nz/blog/posts/never-work-with-pets-and-children

★ **Bonus activity: Draw a precious object you would love to own.**

It can symbolise a value or idea or just be a cool object - let your imagination go wild!

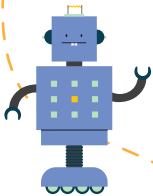


MAHERE TAONGA

Treasure map activity

Here are some quick questions to start thinking about what's precious to you. Write the answers on the squiggly line next to each question.

What would you rescue if your house was on fire?



What object do you enjoy using most or play with everyday?



What object would you never sell?

What matters to you the most right now?



What would you take with you to a deserted island?



What do you value the most?



What is the most expensive object you own?



What is most important to you?



What object expresses your aspirations or dreams for the future?



Which object connects you to your family, friends or culture?



What object best expresses your personality, identity or culture?



What was the best present you ever got?



HE KIMI TAONGA Ā WHĀNAU

Family treasure hunt

Before you start to work on your own precious object here is a fun activity for everyone in your whānau to do together. You may be surprised what you learn about each other and the objects you treasure when you share your stories! If nobody else in your house is available, you can do this by yourself.



Your mission is to find **3 to 5 objects** in your house that are precious to your whānau and put your super sleuthing skills to the test by discovering their stories.

- These objects may stand on the mantelpiece, lie at the back of the drawer or hide in the attic. What are the precious objects of your family?

Object 1

Object 2

Object 3

Object 4

Object 5

HANGAIA HE MAHENUI WHAIARO KŌRERO Ā-WHĀNAU

Make a whānau story zine

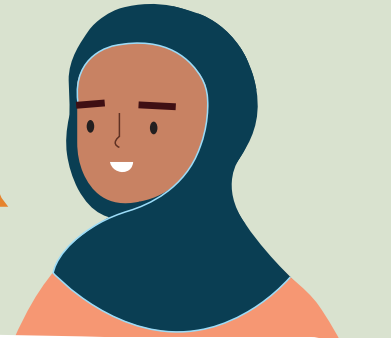
Draw a zine about one of the stories your whanaunga (relative) has shared with you.

Zines are a small homemade booklet. They can be a great way to share your stories, art, poetry, or other forms of self-expression.

Using your previous notes, select one story from your interview that you can turn into a small zine. Once you've finished, you can photocopy your zine and share it with your friends or community.

Well done for creating a new precious object for your whānau!

Fold your zine first and then create your story!



How to make a One-Page Zine, courtesy of Wellington Zinefest

Panel 1 (Top Left): MY FAVORITE ZINE FORMAT IS A ONE-PAGE ZINE. START WITH A REGULAR PIECE OF PAPER. FOLD IT IN HALF... THEN IN HALF AGAIN... AND AGAIN. IT'LL BE THE SIZE OF THIS ZINE. (Illustration shows a square being folded into four smaller squares.)

Panel 2 (Top Middle-Left): WHEN YOU UNFOLD IT, THE PAPER WILL BE EIGHT EVEN RECTANGLES. FOLD IT OVER "HAMBURGER STYLE!" THEN GRAB SOME SCISSORS. (Illustration shows a sheet of paper with vertical fold lines and a pair of scissors.)

Panel 3 (Top Middle-Right): SNIP JUST BETWEEN THE FIRST TWO PANELS ON THE INNER SIDE. DANGER: DON'T CUT THE PAPER CLEAN IN HALF. NOW COMES THE SLIGHTLY *MAGICAL* PART. FOLD THE PAPER OVER "HOT DOG" STYLE AGAIN AND PUSH THE EDGES INWARD TO MAKE A DIAMOND. (Illustration shows hands pushing the edges of a folded paper towards the center.)

Panel 4 (Top Right): THE PAPER WILL BECOME A LITTLE FOUR-POINTED STAR IN YOUR HANDS. FOLD THE PAPER OVER HOW IT NATURALLY WANTS TO GO. IT WILL BECOME A LITTLE BOOKLET. JUST LIKE THIS ONE! (Illustration shows a small booklet with 'Hi!' written on the cover.)

Panel 5 (Bottom Left): MY FAVORITE ZINE-MAKING TOOLS: PENCIL, ERASERS (I DO A LOT OF ERASING!), SKINNY BLACK PEN, FAT BLACK AND GREY BRUSH PENS, GLUE STICK, AUTO-COPIER!, SNIPS. MADE BY SARAH MARK. FEEL FREE TO SHARE! (Illustration shows various drawing and writing tools.)

Panel 6 (Bottom Middle-Left): HOW TO MAKE A ONE-PAGE ZINE. JUST LIKE THIS ONE! NO ARTISTIC SKILLS REQUIRED! (Illustration shows a speech bubble with a dog's head next to it.)

Panel 7 (Bottom Middle-Right): A ZINE IS A MULTI-PAGE PUBLICATION MADE FOR PASSION, NOT PROFIT. IT COMES FROM THE WORD MAGAZINE. YOU CAN MAKE ZINES ABOUT ANYTHING! SOME IDEAS: • how-to • personal stories • political manifestos, recipes. CREATIVE FORMATS: wordless! collage! stamps! typewriter?? (Illustration shows a small zine with a heart on the cover and a speech bubble saying 'PRONOUNCED "/>

Panel 8 (Bottom Right): MY ONLY RULES FOR ZINE-MAKING: → HAVE A MARGIN! OTHERWISE YOUR TEXT GETS EATEN BY THE PHOTOCOPIER. → USE A PEN OR DARK PENCIL! LIGHT PENCIL DOESN'T COPY WELL. → ZINES ARE LOW-STAKES. TAKE RISKS, MAKE MISTAKES, LEARN SOMETHING NEW ABOUT YOURSELF. NO ONE IS PERFECT (Illustration shows a dashed border around the text.)

Step 3. Write a Condition Report

A Condition report will tell you if there is any damage.

Tell us about the condition of your object

What's it made of?

★ Fact: Two of Te Tiriti o Waitangi sheets were written on very thin sheep's skin (called parchment).

What are the measurements?

★ Fact: Did you know the Women's Suffrage Petition is 274 metres long.

Does it have any scratches or dents? Outline below.

Is there any discolouration or damage to it? Outline below.

Step 4. Write an Object Label

Now imagine you're putting together a display case for your exhibition. What additional information can you find out about your objects? Look online – perhaps the National Library website is a good place to start natlib.govt.nz or your local museum.

Object title

Year (When was it made)

What materials is it made out of?

It's precious because...

Surprisingly... (What you may not know about the object at first glance as to why it's precious)

Object label written by

Age

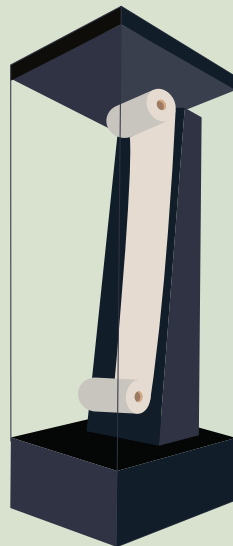
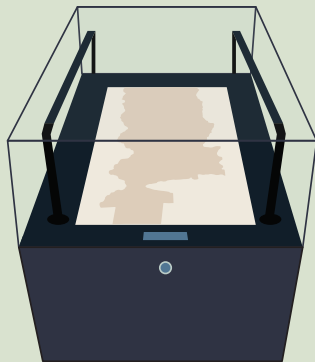
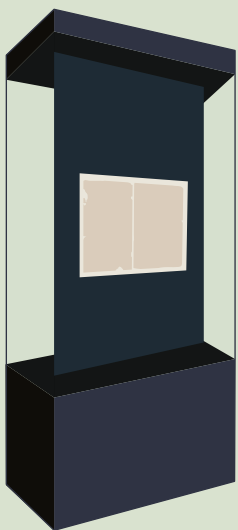
Location (district or town)

KAITIAKITANGA

How to look after your Precious object for the future

Curators and collection managers keep precious objects safe for future generations. This is often called preservation or conservation.

Think about ways you can keep your precious objects safe and prevent them from being damaged. How can you store or handle them which will keep them safe – you probably don't need the white gloves but 'handling with care' is a great way to start.

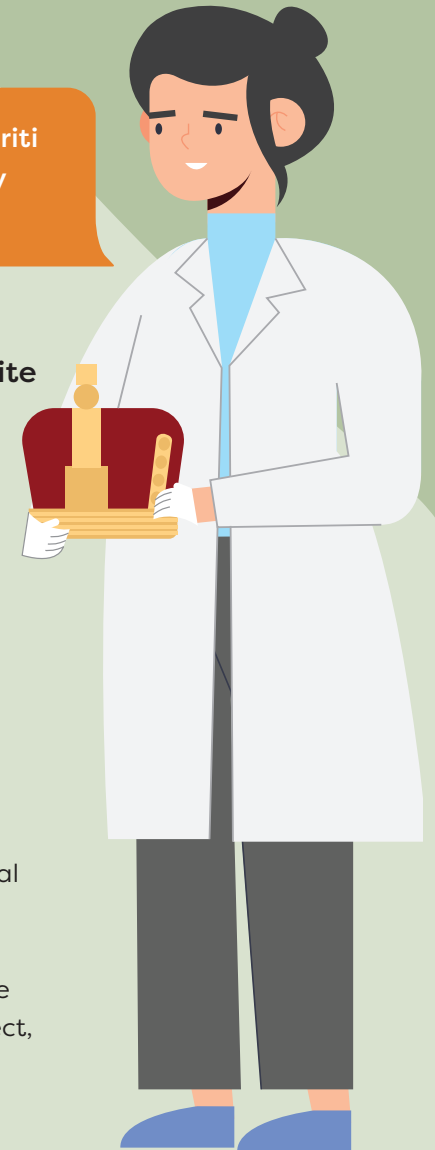


★ **Fact:** Many of the signatures on Te Tiriti o Waitangi have been eaten away by rats and mice!

The *He Tohu* exhibition lets people see 'the real thing' – this can be quite awe inspiring.

Having the documents in a public exhibition for the next 25 years could damage the documents. The heart of the *He Tohu* exhibition is a room called He Whakapapa Kōrero – the document room. This room was designed to protect and enhance the mana of the precious documents it holds inside.

Because the documents are old and extremely delicate they are kept in special environmental conditions to ensure that they last for the next 500 years at least. The documents have survived against the odds. They feature the scars of fire, neglect, water damage, and were nibbled by rats and mice. The way we care for them is a reflection of the value we put on them.



HANGAIA TŌU AKE TOHU

Create your own Tohu

There is a lot we can learn from signatures. For example, artists will often sign their paintings, illustrations or comics with their signature and usually people sign the letters they write.

Signatures or tohu help us understand the provenance, or history of an object; such as who painted it, who owned it, and what was happening at the time that influenced the work or society. Documents, like the Women's Suffrage Petition or the Treaty of Waitangi which show support from groups of people often feature numerous signatures.

- ★ Fact: Many rangatira signed He Whakaputanga and Te Tiriti o Waitangi by replicating the image of their tā moko (facial tattoos). Some chose a symbol to represent their signature.
- ★ Fact: The Women's Suffrage signatories used different coloured ink which were new and fashionable at the time.

KARU **SHEBA** **P.A.**

Have a go at designing your own tohu (mark)

- Draw, write or make a vision board here. What symbol and colours would you choose? Write why you designed it this way.

KUA MUTU. TINO PAI!

That's a wrap. Well done!

Come visit us at the National Library for a tour of *He Tohu* or use one of our cool *He Tohu* Audio Guides or our *He Tohu* New Zealand Sign Language Guides.

To book your tour, email: bookings@hetohu.co.nz

Need help getting your school to the *He Tohu* exhibition in Wellington or the *He Tohu* experience in Auckland? Contact the Te Puna Foundation *He Tohu* Travel Fund: info@tepunafoundation.org.nz

Ngā mihi ki a koe!

Ka kite i a koe i te whare pukapuka ā-motu

See you at the National Library (or online) www.natlib.govt.nz

Join us on social media:

 @hetohunz

 @NLNZ

 National Library of New Zealand

