

Food and Fibre Centre of Vocational Excellence

TE AO MĀORI SKILLS FRAMEWORK TOOLKIT:

FOR ĀKONGA (LEARNERS)

2025

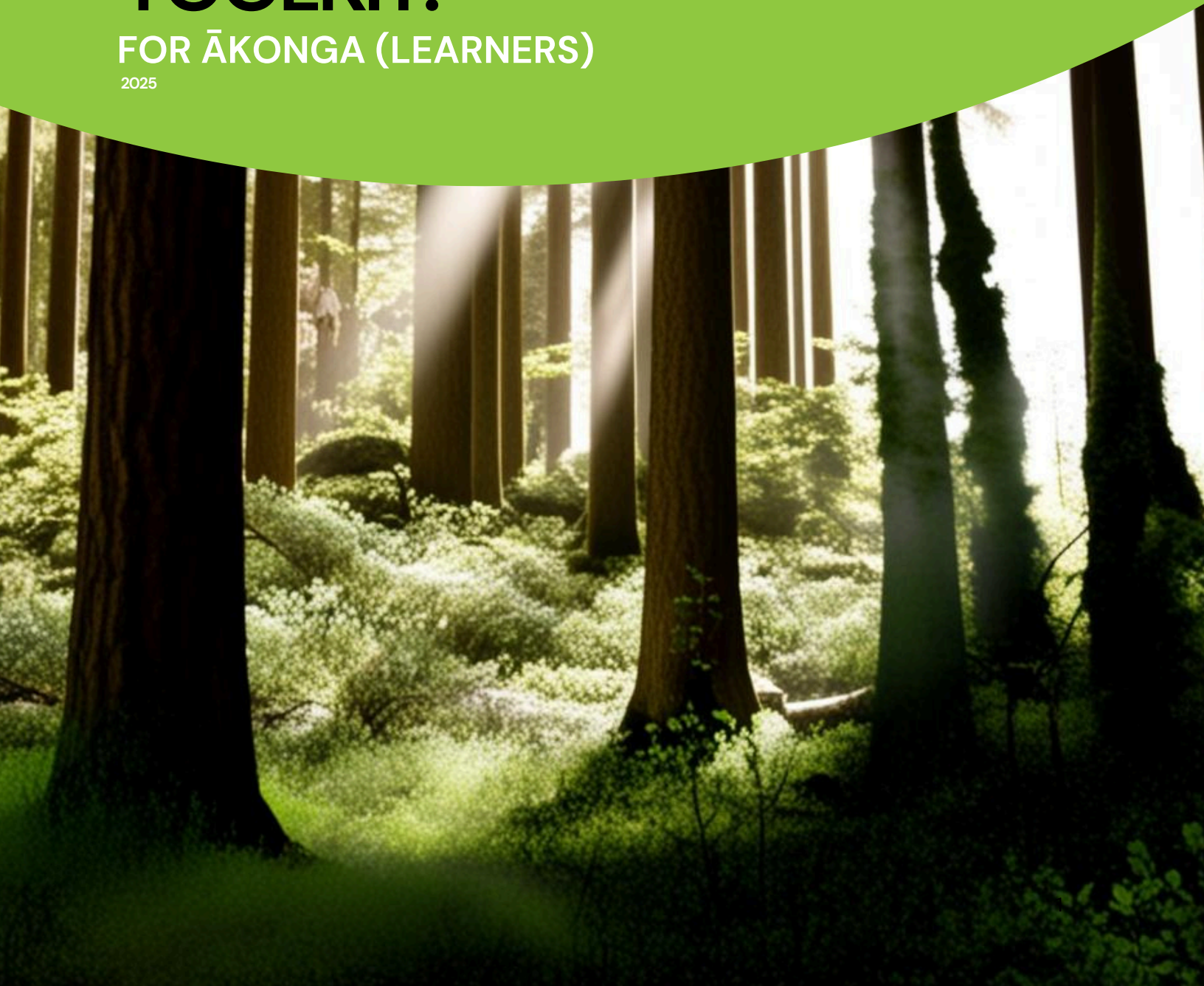


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Welcome to the Skills Toolkit

**"Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi."
"With your basket and my basket, the people will thrive."**

The **Skills Toolkit** is a resource designed to empower Ākonga with the essential transferable skills needed for success in the dynamic **Food and Fibre sector**. It provides the tools to excel across diverse roles, champion innovation, and contribute to a resilient and sustainable industry.

Guided by Te Ao Māori Values

At the heart of the Toolkit lies a deep integration of Te Ao Māori principles, which inspire Ākonga to contribute to individual and collective wellbeing.

By embracing these values, learners are equipped not only to succeed personally but to uplift their communities and this around them.

A Shared Language for Growth

The Toolkit establishes a common language for recognising skills, whether gained through formal education or life experiences. This framework ensures that all pathways—traditional or unconventional—are valued and aligned with the evolving needs of the Food and Fibre sector.



Pathways to Thrive

Through this resource, Ākonga gain:

- Adaptability to meet industry challenges.
- Critical Thinking for problem-solving and innovation.
- Collaboration Skills to foster teamwork and drive sector-wide progress.

The whakatauki "*Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi*" (*With your basket and my basket, the people will thrive*) serves as a guiding principle, symbolising the unity and shared effort required for collective growth and success.

Empowered for the Future

This Toolkit is more than a resource—it's an invitation to lead with integrity, thrive in a changing world, and contribute to a sustainable future. With this foundation, learners are prepared to honour the past while building a better tomorrow for themselves, their communities, and the Food and Fibre sector.

Explore the Skills Toolkit and begin your journey towards a future rich in opportunity and impact.

Key Information

Who is This Toolkit For?

- **Ākonga:** Empowers Ākonga at all stages to develop skills, understand their roles, and prepare for future opportunities.

How to Use This Toolkit

- **As a Reference for Skills Development:** Use this Toolkit as a foundational resource to guide skill-building and adaptability within the Food and Fibre sector.
- **As a Tool for Self-Reflection and Guidance:** Encourage Ākonga to reflect on their strengths and areas for development or use the Toolkit to guide others through their growth journey, aligning skill practices with Te Ao Māori values.

Caveats

Disclaimer: This Toolkit includes Māori kupu (words) and whakataukī (proverbs) and whakatauākī (attributed proverbs) to reflect and honour Te Ao Māori perspectives within the Food and Fibre Skills Framework. Interpretations provided aim to support workplace understanding while upholding core Māori values.

Recognising that interpretations of Te Reo Māori and cultural elements can vary among whānau, hapū, and iwi. Ākonga are encouraged to consult local Māori leaders or cultural advisors to ensure culturally appropriate application and deeper understanding.

Documents

This Toolkit is designed to align with the Food and Fibre CoVE – Te Ao Māori Extended Skills Framework and Core Transferable Skills. It is intended to be used in conjunction with these resources to ensure a comprehensive approach to skills development.





Te Ao Māori Perspectives and Principles

Te Ao Māori is a journey of growth that extends beyond any single resource. This Toolkit serves as a starting point to explore and incorporate these perspectives, emphasising the importance of building relationships with whānau, hapū, and iwi to deepen understanding and meaningful application.



Understanding a Te Ao Māori Perspective:

Te Ao Māori reflects a Māori worldview shaped by cultural values and practices. Each whānau, hapū, and iwi brings unique interpretations, highlighting the importance of respecting diversity in learning.

Mason Durie's **Te Whare Tapa Wha** model, based on the four sides of a marae, offers a practical introduction. It explores taha wairua (spiritual), taha hinengaro (mental), taha tinana (physical), and taha whānau (family/social well-being) as key dimensions of life.

Mātauranga Māori/Māori Knowledge:

Mātauranga Māori is the rich body of knowledge from Māori ancestors, encompassing cultural practices, creativity, and broader values. Learning about Mātauranga Māori alongside Te Ao Māori fosters cultural awareness and builds meaningful connections with Māori communities.

Where to Start

Where to Start with This Guidebook:

Embarking on your journey with this Toolkit is an opportunity to develop valuable skills while integrating Te Ao Māori principles into your learning and skill development.

Here's how to begin:

Explore Values

- Start by familiarising yourself with foundational Te Ao Māori values like Kotahitanga (unity), Manaakitanga (care), and Kaitiakitanga (guardianship). These principles underpin the guidebook and will inform your learning approach.

Identify Your Goals

- Use the Goal Checklist to reflect on your strengths and areas for growth. Set personal objectives that align with both your aspirations and the collective well-being of your community or sector.

Engage with Whakataukī/Whakatauākī

- Dive into the rich cultural wisdom embedded in Māori proverbs to inspire your learning journey. Whakataukī offer timeless guidance for personal development and resilience.

Understand the Framework

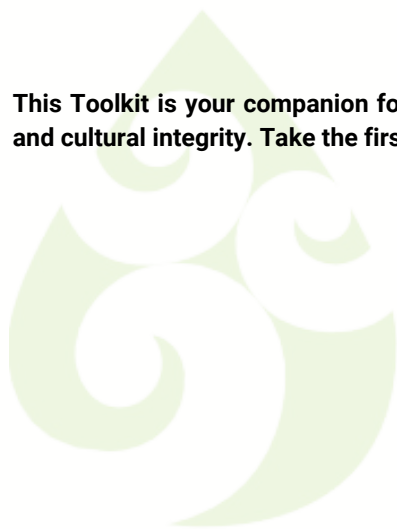
- Familiarise yourself with the five core transferable skill sets outlined in the Toolkit, from building a strong Sense of Self to Critical Thinking and Collaboration. These skills are designed to support your success across diverse roles and challenges.

Take Action

- Begin with small, practical steps. Participate in community initiatives, seek guidance from mentors, and reflect on your progress regularly. Use the tips and examples provided to integrate these skills into your everyday learning.



This Toolkit is your companion for growth, offering tools and inspiration to navigate your journey with confidence and cultural integrity. Take the first step today and discover the impact you can create!



Key Information

Aim

The Food and Fibre Skills Framework has been developed to:

- Develop a common language to describe skills and knowledge, which will support flexible qualifications and transferable skills.
- Help understand which skills are relevant across many food and fibre sectors and workplaces, and which are more specialised.
- Help recognise skills that are gained outside of the formal qualification system.
- Enable the future proofing of food and fibre sector skills and capabilities, addressing new and emerging skills as well as current skills.
- Enable the simplification of qualifications.

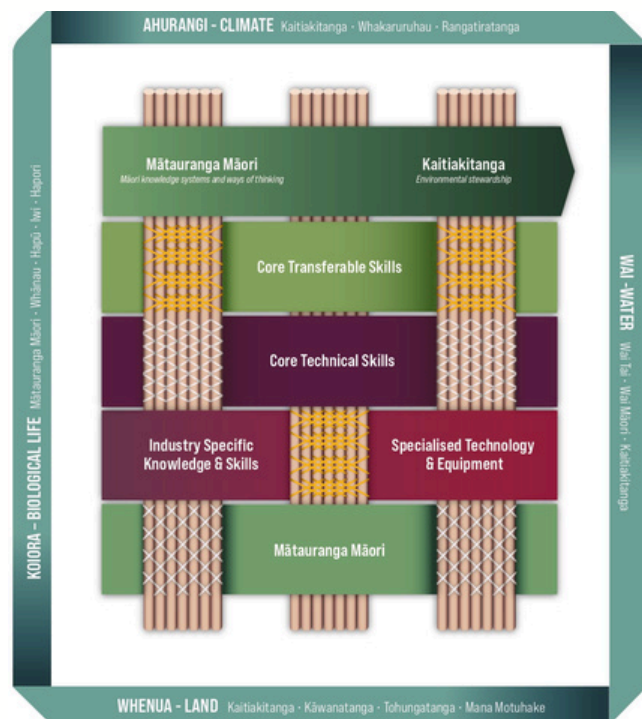
How to use the Skills Framework

The Skills Framework has multiple dimensions, and the reader should approach from their own context as either an individual, employer or an educator.

As a Ākonga: The Skills Framework is designed to aid your exploration of your current skills, and how they may be developed further to aid your development in life and at work.

Each skill element has three progression levels. These should be broadly interpreted, and may not perfectly describe your situation (ie. you may want to develop skills, but not be in a supervisory role). Descriptive statements for each skill element take the form of "I can" statements, to help you assess where your skill level currently sits.

In addition, the Scenario may assist by putting you in a real-world situation, and provide further grounding for the reflection on your skills. The resources listed for each skill set are an indication of next steps you could take in your development journey.



Visualisation of the Food and Fibre Skills Framework

This is a high-level visualisation of the Food and Fibre Skills Framework, which shows the interwoven nature of the core components. Te Ao Māori has been integrated into The Framework by using a Māori icon in the form of Tukutuku Lattice panels which adorn the pakiwaitara (stories) on the walls of the whare Tipuna.

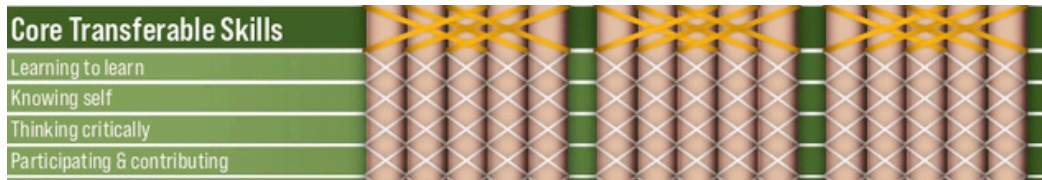
The Core Transferable skills are woven in the centre of the panel, as they provide the core skills needed by individuals in life and in work.

For further information about the Skills Framework, refer to the outputs of the Research Project on the FF CoVE website ([here](#)).

Core Transferable Skills

These are ‘skills to build skills’: learning to learn, learning for work, and learning for life. The term ‘core transferable skills’ has been deliberately chosen as these skill sets underpin the ability of individuals to gain, value, extend and transfer any skills or knowledge to different contexts. There are five skill sets that make up the Core Transferable Skills.

Reflecting Mason Durie’s **Te Whare Tapa Whā** model, each Core Transferable Skill connects to one of the four sides of the whare (meeting house), symbolising the strength and stability required for personal and collective success. This connection reinforces the importance of balance in building skills that contribute meaningfully to both individuals and their communities.



Breakdown of Core Transferable Skills

Whakataukī and whakatauākī hold immense cultural significance in Te Ao Māori. These expressions encapsulate the wisdom, values, and teachings of ancestors, offering insights into navigating life, building resilience, and fostering a sense of identity. By exploring and applying whakataukī, individuals and communities can find guidance for personal growth, collective well-being, and meaningful connections to their surroundings.

01

Promoting Collective Growth:

Whakataukī often stress interdependence, encouraging actions that contribute to the collective well-being of whānau, hapū, and iwi.

02

Providing Timeless Wisdom:

These encapsulate universal truths that transcend generations, offering guidance applicable to both traditional and contemporary contexts.

03

Strengthening Connections:

Whakataukī emphasise relationality—connections to people, land, and the environment. This fosters a sense of belonging and shared purpose within communities.

04

Supporting Resilience:

By drawing on ancestral wisdom, individuals can navigate challenges with strength and adaptability, using identity and cultural values as sources of empowerment.

05

Encouraging Self-Awareness:

Whakataukī inspire individuals to explore their sense of self and identity. For example, the saying “Kia kaha ake te pakiaka, ka kaha ake te tipu o te rākau” (“The stronger the roots, the stronger the tree will grow”) emphasises the importance of developing strong foundations—understanding one’s whakapapa (genealogy) and tūrangawaewae (place of belonging).

Sense of Self

“Kia kaha ake te pakiaka,
ka kaha ake te tipu o te
rākau”

“The stronger the roots,
the stronger the tree will
grow”

The Value of Sense of Self

Knowing Self is about developing a strong sense of identity, which forms the foundation for growth, resilience, and success. From a Te Ao Māori perspective, this aligns with the concepts of Tūrangawaewae (a place to stand) and Whakapapa (genealogy), emphasising the importance of understanding who you are and your connections to whānau, community, and the environment. This relational understanding strengthens your roots, enabling you to grow confidently and navigate challenges effectively.

Element

Tūrangawaewae:

01

Te Reo Māori:

“Ko taku rekereke, ko
taku Tūrangawaewae.”

02

English:

“Where I dig my heels is where I
make my stand.”

03

Explanation:

This whakataukī refers to the fact that it doesn't matter where you were born or raised, your Tūrangawaewae is anywhere you feel strong and at home.

Overview:

Tūrangawaewae represents a sense of belonging and grounding, often tied to ancestral lands or spaces where one feels connected and secure. It is both a physical and spiritual foundation that provides stability and purpose.

Element

Whakapapa:

01

Te Reo Māori:

“He rau rengarenga nā
roto I te raukura.”

02

English:

“Listen to the whisperings.”

03

Explanation:

Traditionally this whakataukī speaks about healing but it also refers to the importance of listening to your intuition for these are the things of the spirit and our ancestors.

Overview:

Whakapapa refers to genealogy and the interconnectedness of all things. It links individuals to their ancestors, whānau, and the natural world, offering a sense of identity and continuity through generations.

Examples

Discover Tūrangawaewae:

Reflect on the experiences and environments that ground you, such as whānau, community, or workspaces. Engage in activities or initiatives that connect you to the local community and its cultural or historical roots.

Suggestion

Join a local hapū/marae-based initiative where you learn about the cultural significance of the area and how it aligns with community and environmental well-being.

Suggestion

Participate in a whānau reunion or storytelling session with kaumātua, recording and reflecting on family stories to better understand your place in your lineage.

Explore Whakapapa

- Learn about your family history and ancestral stories. Use this knowledge to understand your place within your whānau and community.
- Seek guidance from elders or kaumātua to deepen your awareness of whakapapa and its relevance to your personal and professional life.

Practice Self-Reflection

- Regularly assess your strengths, values, and areas for growth. Consider how these align with your current role or future aspirations.
- Set personal goals that incorporate both individual success and contribution to the collective good of the community or sector.

Goal Checklist: Develop a strong sense of identity, grounded in Tūrangawaewae and Whakapapa, to build confidence, resilience, and a foundation for personal and professional growth.

- Reflect on personal experiences that provide grounding and a sense of belonging.
- Participate in activities that connect you to your local community and culture.
- Explore your whakapapa and learn ancestral stories.
- Use challenges as opportunities for personal growth and resilience.

Learning to Learn

“Ko te manu e kai ana i te miro, nōna te ngahere. Ko te manu e kai ana i te mātauranga, nōna te ao.”

“The bird that partakes of the miro berry owns the forest. The bird that partakes of knowledge owns the world.”

The Value of learning to learn :

Learning to Learn is about cultivating curiosity, adaptability, and a lifelong approach to acquiring knowledge. From a Te Ao Māori perspective, this aligns with the concept of Ako, which emphasises reciprocal learning—drawing on knowledge from others, knowledge given and received, knowledge shared, and knowledge passed down. Ako reflects a relational process, integrating ancestral wisdom (mātauranga) with contemporary practices to ensure knowledge remains relevant and applicable.

Element

Ako:

01

Te Reo Māori:

“Kia hōhonu ai te puna kupu.”

02

English:

“Let the pool of words fall deep.”

03

Explanation:

This whakataukī suggests that one should strive for depth in understanding and knowledge, valuing profound insights over superficial ones. strong and at home.

Overview:

Ako represents reciprocal learning, where the roles of teacher and learner are fluid and context-dependent. It highlights the relational aspect of knowledge—knowledge gained, shared, and applied in a way that strengthens both individuals and the collective.

Examples

Encouraging Ako

Embrace a mindset of continuous learning, where knowledge is not only acquired but shared and exchanged. Engage in reciprocal learning relationships, where both teaching and learning are fluid and mutually enriching. Seek opportunities to learn from others' experiences and wisdom, while also contributing your own insights to strengthen collective knowledge and growth."

This sets the stage for the examples of Ako to follow, emphasising the dynamic and communal nature of learning.

Suggestion

Engage in collaborative learning opportunities and, where possible, seek out people with diverse thoughts, ideas, and backgrounds to challenge and push your own growth.

Suggestion

Engage in hands-on learning experiences where knowledge is applied in practical settings, and encourage an environment where everyone's input adds value. Focus on learning through doing, while also reflecting on those experiences to deepen understanding and improve future practice.

Collaborative Learning Environments

- Participate in group discussions or workshops where learning is reciprocal, allowing everyone to contribute, share knowledge, and gain insights.
- Contribute your knowledge while learning from others' diverse perspectives to foster collective growth and expand your understanding.

Learning Through Shared Experience:

- Gain experience by contributing to a professional or community initiative, where learning is directly tied to real-world challenges, and you receive feedback that enhances your skills.
- Collaborate with local organisations to solve real-world problems, sharing knowledge and skills while learning from others' practical experiences.

Goal Checklist: Cultivate curiosity, adaptability, and reciprocal learning (Ako), drawing on ancestral wisdom and contemporary practices to navigate challenges and opportunities.

- Embrace learning opportunities from peers, mentors, and cultural narratives.
- Regularly update your kete (knowledge basket) with new skills and insights.
- Reflect on your learning journey to identify strengths and areas for growth.
- Actively participate in group discussions and share your knowledge.

Thinking Critically

“I oreā te tuatara ka patu ki waho.”

“A problem is solved by continuing to find solutions.”

The Value of Thinking Critically:

Critical thinking involves evaluating information, perspectives, and actions to make informed decisions. A Te Ao Māori approach incorporates values such as manaakitanga and kaitiakitanga, ensuring decisions are made with respect for people and the environment.

Element Mātauranga:

01

Te Reo Māori:

“I oreā te tuatara ka patu ki waho.”

02

English:

“A problem is solved by continuing to find solutions.”

03

Explanation:

This whakataukī refers to the need for creative thinking, critical thinking, adaptability and perseverance. In order to solve a problem you need to have all of these.

Overview:

Thinking Critically through a Te Ao Māori approach refers to the accumulation and application of knowledge, combining traditional wisdom and contemporary understanding. It highlights the importance of critical thinking, creativity, and perseverance in solving problems and making informed decisions that benefit both individuals and the wider collective.

Examples

Encouraging Critical Thinking

Reflect on how the concepts and practices you learn relate to wider societal and environmental contexts. Explore examples of how traditional knowledge has been used to solve contemporary challenges, and think about how you can apply these lessons.

Suggestion

You are looking to design a module within a farming curriculum that integrates traditional Māori maramataka (lunar calendar) planting techniques alongside regenerative agriculture methods, demonstrating the interconnectedness of sustainability approaches.

Suggestion

Participate in a wānanga (workshop) that brings together students, kaumātua, and industry experts to discuss how cultural values can enhance biodiversity projects.

Suggestion

Evaluate the effectiveness of different approaches to addressing a specific challenge by balancing practical considerations, such as economic costs, with cultural values like kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and manaakitanga (care and hospitality).

Be Open to Perspectives

- Engage with diverse viewpoints, actively listening to others' experiences, particularly those rooted in cultural values and traditions.
- Participate in group projects or community activities that encourage you to collaborate with others and learn from different perspectives.

Analyse and Decide

- Practice assessing information critically by asking questions, considering alternatives, and evaluating outcomes.
- Use values like manaakitanga and kaitiakitanga as guiding principles when making decisions in your studies or work.

Apply Knowledge Creatively

- Experiment with combining traditional and contemporary methods to develop new ideas or improve existing processes.
- Stay open to learning from failures and adapting your approach to overcome challenges, demonstrating perseverance and creativity.

Goal Checklist: Strengthen critical thinking by integrating Mātauranga Māori and values like Manaakitanga and Kaitiakitanga into decision-making processes.

- Reflect on how new knowledge connects to wider societal and environmental contexts.
- Seek out diverse perspectives and incorporate them into decision-making.
- Practice critical evaluation by asking questions and considering alternatives.
- Experiment with combining traditional and modern methods to solve challenges.

Interacting with Others

“Whīria te. tangata, toitū te mātauranga”

“A problem is solved by continuing to find solutions.”

The Value of Interacting with others:

Interacting with Others is about building strong relationships and navigating different social and cultural dynamics. It involves actively listening, recognising diverse points of view, and working collaboratively to share ideas and achieve goals. From a Te Ao Māori perspective, this aligns with the concepts of Whanaungatanga and Manaakitanga, emphasising the importance of connection, mutual respect, and collective knowledge.

Element

Whanaungatanga:

01

Te Reo Māori:

“He hono tangata e kore e motu; ka pa he taura waka e motu”

02

English:

Unlike a canoe rope, a human bond cannot be severed”

03

Explanation:

This whakataukī emphasises the enduring strength of human relationships. It contrasts the unbreakable nature of human bonds with the fragility of physical objects, like a canoe rope. The whakataukī highlights the core value of whanaungatanga. It serves as a powerful reminder to nurture and prioritise relationships within families, communities and experiences to share.

Overview:

Whanaungatanga represents the value of relationships and interconnectedness. It highlights the importance of establishing and maintaining meaningful connections with others, fostering trust, and working collaboratively toward shared goals.

Element

Manaakitanga:

01

Te Reo Māori:

“He aroha whakatō, he aroha puta mai”

02

English:

If kindness is sown, then kindness is what you shall receive”

03

Explanation:

This whakataukī emphasises the reciprocal nature of kindness, suggesting that acts of love and kindness will lead to receiving the same in return. It highlights the importance of generosity and the positive outcomes that arise from nurturing relationships with care and compassion.

Overview:

Manaakitanga reflects the practice of care, respect, and hospitality. It involves creating an inclusive and supportive environment where people feel valued and empowered to contribute.

Examples

Encouraging Interacting with Others

Taking the initiative to build connections with peers, mentors, and community members through group projects and events will help create meaningful relationships. Approaching these connections with authenticity and a willingness to learn from others will encourage mutual growth and strengthen collaboration.

Suggestion

Join a student-led initiative focused on restoring local waterways, collaborating with classmates and hapū/iwi members to form meaningful connections while contributing to a shared goal.

Suggestion

During group discussions, listen actively to peers' and mentors' insights, including cultural narratives, and integrate these perspectives into project solutions.

Suggestion

Support a struggling peer by sharing study resources and offering encouragement, creating an inclusive and caring learning environment.

Actively Listen and Acknowledge Perspectives

- Listen attentively to mentors, classmates, and stakeholders to understand their viewpoints and broaden your perspective.
- Share your insights respectfully, recognising that diverse contributions enrich collective understanding.

Promote Collaboration

- Engage in group activities that leverage individual strengths for shared success, such as team-based problem-solving or community initiatives.
- Create an environment of mutual respect and encouragement among peers.

Be Adaptable in Social Dynamics

- Embrace opportunities to learn about and respect cultural practices, including tikanga Māori.
- Apply adaptability to navigate challenges in diverse team settings, building resilience and interpersonal skills.

Goal Checklist: Build meaningful relationships through Whanaungatanga and Manaakitanga, promoting collaboration and mutual respect.

- Build relationships with peers and mentors by participating in group activities.
- Actively listen to others and acknowledge diverse viewpoints.
- Contribute to team projects by leveraging your strengths and respecting others'.
- Show care and respect by supporting your peers and creating an inclusive environment.

Participating and Contributing to Others:

“Taakiri tū te kōtahitanga,
taakiri tū te mana
Motuhake.”

“Independence is strong,
unity is stronger.”

The Value of Participating and Contributing to others:

Participating and Contributing is about being an active member of your community, building connections, and creating opportunities for others to succeed. It involves understanding the balance between rights, roles, and responsibilities to ensure a quality environment for everyone. From a Te Ao Māori perspective, this aligns with the concepts of Kotahitanga(unity) and Kaitiakitanga (guardianship), emphasising collaboration, collective well-being, and shared responsibility.

Element Kaitiakitanga

01

Te Reo Māori:

“Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi.”

Overview:

Kaitiakitanga reflects the responsibility of guardianship and care. It involves protecting and nurturing people, places, and environments to ensure they thrive for current and future generations.

02

English:

“With your food basket and my food basket, the people will thrive.”

03

Explanation:

This whakataukī highlights the power of unity and collective effort. It's a powerful statement about the importance of community, reciprocity, and working together.

Examples

Encouraging Participation and contribution to others

Seek out opportunities to contribute to community initiatives, like environmental clean-ups or local events, and actively participate in workplace and community discussions. Engaging in these activities will help promote growth, strengthen connections, and support collective well-being.

Suggestion

Volunteer for a local community planting day to learn about native flora and its significance, while contributing to environmental restoration.

Suggestion

Take initiative in a group project by ensuring everyone's voice is heard and that the workload is evenly distributed, respecting each team member's input.

Suggestion

Implement sustainable practices in your daily life, such as reducing waste or supporting local produce, and encourage others to do the same.

Create Opportunities for Others

- Share your knowledge and skills with peers to contribute to mutual learning.
- Encourage inclusive participation by inviting others to contribute their ideas and talents.

Practice Kaitiakitanga

- Take responsibility for caring for resources and people around you, integrating sustainable habits into your life.
- Contribute to initiatives that aim to protect cultural and environmental values for future generations.

Embrace Kotahitanga

- Work collaboratively with peers, employers, and mentors to achieve common goals.
- Celebrate the achievements of your team or community and contribute to shared success.

Goal Checklist: Actively engage in building connections, creating opportunities for others, and balancing rights, roles, and responsibilities to support collective success.

- Actively contribute to community initiatives, such as environmental projects.
- Share your skills and knowledge to support collective goals.
- Respect roles and responsibilities while collaborating with others.
- Celebrate achievements and reflect on how your contributions support long-term well-being.



Tips and Tricks

These tips and tricks are here to support you as you begin integrating Te Ao Māori principles into your journey towards building your transferable skills. Start with small steps, focus on building meaningful connections, and embrace opportunities for learning and growth. This journey is about making progress, reflecting on your experiences, and creating an inclusive environment where everyone can succeed together.

- ✔ **Embrace Learning Opportunities:**

 - Seek chances to learn from both formal and informal interactions.
- ✔ **Ask Questions:**

 - Don't hesitate to seek clarification or guidance when encountering new concepts or practices.
- ✔ **Share Your Insights:**

 - Your perspectives and contributions are valuable—collaborate and communicate openly.
- ✔ **Stay Curious:**

 - Maintain an attitude of openness and adaptability to grow your knowledge and skills.
- ✔ **Leverage Community Resources:**

 - Engage with local experts, kaumātua, and mana whenua for deeper insights.
- ✔ **Start Small:**

 - Begin with one or two principles or actions to build confidence and consistency.
- ✔ **Build Relationships First:**

 - Focus on forming genuine connections with whānau, hapū, iwi, and communities before diving into formal processes.
- ✔ **Be Patient:**

 - Cultural integration and meaningful engagement take time—allow space for learning and adaptation.
- ✔ **Celebrate Progress:**

 - Acknowledge and share even small successes to inspire and motivate ongoing efforts.
- ✔ **Listen Actively:**

 - Prioritise understanding over quick fixes—respect the voices and perspectives of all involved.

Glossary

Kupu Māori English Translation

Ako	Learning and teaching; often refers to a reciprocal learning process.
Ahuarangi	Climate
Awa	River, symbolising flow and connection between people and the land.
Iwi	Extended kinship group, tribe, nation, people, nationality, race - often refers to a large group of people descended from a common ancestor and associated with a distinct territory.
Kaitiakitanga	Guardianship, stewardship; often used in relation to the care and protection of the environment.
Kete	Basket, often used metaphorically to represent knowledge or skills.
Koiora	Biological Life
Kōrero	Speech, discussion, conversation.
Kōtahitanga	Collective unity or togetherness, highlighting the power of working together.
Marama	Moon, to be clear, light, easy to understand, lucid, bright, transparent.
Manu	Bird, often used metaphorically to symbolise learning or individuals in the context of proverbs.
Mana	Prestige, authority, control, power, influence, status, spiritual power, charisma - mana is a supernatural force in a person, place or object.
Manaakitanga	Hospitality, kindness, generosity, and support; the process of showing respect and care for others.
Mana Mōtuhake	Separate identity, autonomy, self-government, self-determination, independence, sovereignty, authority - mana through self-determination and control over one's own destiny.
Māori	Indigenous people of New Zealand.
Mārama	Enlightenment, understanding.
Mātau	Expertise, competent, clever, knowledgeable, or to understand.
Mātauranga	Knowledge, education, or wisdom.
Mātauranga Māori	Māori knowledge - the body of knowledge originating from Māori ancestors, including the Māori world view and perspectives, Māori creativity and cultural practices.
Miro	A type of berry, often used in proverbs to symbolise sustenance or knowledge.
Mōhio	To know, understand, realise, comprehend, recognise.
Ngahere	Forest, symbolising the natural environment or a community of knowledge.
Pakiaka	Roots, referring metaphorically to one's foundation or origin.
Pakiwaitara	Stories or narratives, often passed down through generations.
Poi	A lightweight ball swung rhythmically, used in metaphor to symbolise preparation or focus.
Rākau	Tree, often symbolising growth or development.
Rangatira	Chiefly, to be of high rank, become of high rank, enobled, rich, well off, noble, esteemed, revered.
Reo	Language or voice.
Rourou	Basket, used in a metaphorical sense to symbolise contributions or resources brought together for the good of the community.
Taiaha	A traditional Māori weapon, used metaphorically to refer to preparedness and focus.
Tangata	To be a person, human being, individual.
Te Ao Māori	The Māori worldview, encompassing their beliefs, values, and way of understanding the world.
Toi Māori	Traditional and contemporary Māori art forms, including visual arts, carving (whakairo), weaving (raranga), painting, and tattooing (tā moko).
Tukutuku	Lattice panels, typically found on the walls of wharehau (meeting houses), often used for storytelling through patterns.
Tūrangawaewae	A place to stand; a place of belonging or connection, often referring to one's home or ancestral land.
Wai	Water
Wairua	spirit, soul - spirit of a person which exists beyond death.
Whakataukī	Proverb or saying attributed to a known person, often a leader or someone of significance, expressing personal views or philosophies.
Whakataukī	Proverb or saying that expresses wisdom or advice with no known author.
Whakapapa	Genealogy or lineage; the understanding of one's background and family history.
Whānau	Family or extended family.
Whanaungatanga	Relationship, kinship, sense of connection and belonging within a group, community or collective.

**"NĀU TE ROUROU, NĀKU TE ROUROU, KA ORA
AI TE IWI."**

**"WITH YOUR BASKET AND MY BASKET, THE
PEOPLE WILL THRIVE."**

NGĀ MIHI