

WORKSHEET

GUESS WHAT?

(2)

A poupou is a carved wooden panel that shows Māori family stories. It's like a family photo album made of wood! These special panels are found inside meeting houses and help people remember their ancestors.



Creating a Poupou (Ancestor Panel)

Remembering and honoring one's ancestors is incredibly important to the Māori people. In addition to connecting to their human families, the Māori also are genealogically connected to the land and to the waters.

The Māori are tangata whenua—"people of the land," and you often will see design elements in carvings, art, and tattoos that connect to the land and sea. For example:



Koru is the fern frond. It represents new life, growth, and family.

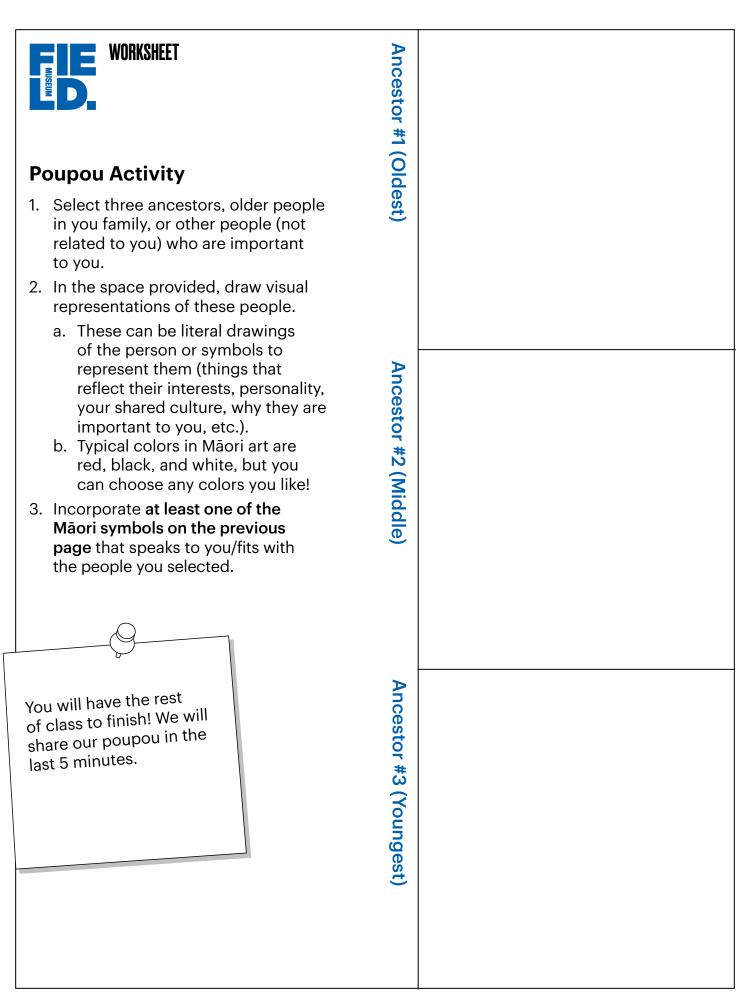


Moana/Ngaru is the water, sea, and waves. It represents continuity versus change, movement, life and death.



Mangopare is the hammerhead shark. It represents. strength, determination, courage, and power.

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