

# Matariki: The Māori New Year — Knowledge Organiser

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## Key facts

- Matariki is the Māori New Year.
- It is marked by the rising of the Matariki star cluster in midwinter.
- It is a time to remember those who have died, give thanks, and look ahead.
- Matariki became an official New Zealand public holiday in 2022.

## Key vocabulary

- Matariki — the Māori New Year and star cluster.
- Star cluster — a group of stars.
- Harvest — gathered crops.
- Reflect — to think back.

## Stars mark the new year

When the Matariki stars rise in midwinter, it signals the Māori New Year — a time to remember, give thanks and plan ahead.

## A new holiday

Matariki became New Zealand's first public holiday to honour a Māori tradition, celebrated since 2022.