

Matariki

Kia ora! I'm Matariki – star of wellbeing. I'm **te whaea** (*mother*) to all the other **whetū** (*stars*) in the Matariki cluster, and I'm the brightest star.

Things might look **pōuri** (*gloomy*) sometimes, but I can light your way. Look up at me when I'm shining in the night sky, and I'll bring you good luck, peace, and wellbeing. **Noho ora mai** (*stay well*)!

Pōhutukawa

I'm Pōhutukawa – star of remembrance.
I guide the dead across the night sky
until they become stars.

When the Matariki cluster sets, I lead
the dead through the darkness. When
the Matariki cluster rises, the dead take
their place with me among the **whetū**
(*stars*).

Look up at the night sky, and you will
see your ancestors shining brightly.

Tipuānuku

I'm Tipuānuku, star of food from the ground – the kūmara, the **kāroti** (*carrot*), the **paukena** (*pumpkin*).

Storms and frosts – they come and go. I'm patient, keeping watch as the sun and rain nourish my slow growing things.

If I'm dim when I rise at Matariki, you won't get as much **kai** (*food*) from the ground. If I'm bright, the next harvest will be a good one.

Tipuārangī

Kūī! Kūī!

I'm Tipuārangī, star of food from the sky – the bright berries of the karaka, the **iti** (*little*) fronds of the **pikopiko** (*fern shoots*), the fragrant **kawakawa** (*pepper tree*), the **manu** (*birds*) with their soft feathered wings.

Hard to see me at Matariki? **Kai** (*food*) from the sky will be scarce. Am I nice and bright? There will be plenty of food from the sky.

Kūī! Kūī!

Waitī

I'm Waitī, star of fresh water – **awa** (*river*), **roto** (*lakes*), and **kōawa** (*streams*). I watch over the things that live here – **tuna** (*eel*), **kōura** (*crayfish*), the bright green watercress.

Arawaru – that's the sound of **wai** (*water*) flowing into rivers, lakes, and streams.

If I'm dim when I rise, the food from fresh water will be scarce. If you can see me clearly, it will be bountiful.

Waitā

Nguru (*grunt*)! I'm Waitā, star of the ocean and **kaimoana** (*seafood*) – seaweed, **kina** (*sea urchins*), all kinds of **ika** (*fish*).

I'm like the ocean – calm one day, then **whenewhene** (*rough*) the next.

If I'm blurry when I rise at Matariki, you won't get much kaimoana. If I'm bright and clear, you'll get lots.

Waipunarangi

Patapata patapata (*the sound of rain*) – I'm Waipunarangi, star of the rain. Listen as it falls from the sky and washes over the earth, nourishing all living things.

If you can't see me clearly when I rise at Matariki, the year will bring lots of rain and maybe some flooding. If I'm bright and clear, the rain will be light.

Ururangi

I'm Ururangi, star of the wind. I blow through all things – trees, houses, the waves on the sea.

I'm pretty changeable. One day I'm gentle, then **mea rawa ake** (*all of a sudden*) I'm a storm!

If I'm hard to see when I rise at Matariki, the year will be windy. If I'm bright and clear, the winds will be calm – no promises for Te-Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington though, haha!

Hiwa-i-te-rangi

I'm Hiwa-i-te-rangi, star of hope. I'm the youngest **whetū** (*star*) in the Matariki cluster, but I have a big job. I take care of all your hopes and wishes.

What do you want over the coming year for **whānau** (*family*), **hapori** (*community*), and **te taiao** (*nature*)? Whisper your hopes to me **e hoa** (*friend*) – let's make them happen together.

Watch for me when Matariki rises. If I'm bright, your wishes will come true.