

Activity 16a Māori actions

Supplement to Activity 16 Laws Attack Māori society

Activity 16 Laws Attack Maori society receives consistently positive feedback about its learning impact. It helps participants understand how New Zealand society came to be as it is today through laws passed that did not follow Te Tiriti o Waitangi. However, the kit authors felt that it was important to show that Māori did not accept these unfair laws passively, and have always made efforts to bring New Zealand society back to the promises of the Treaty.

This supplementary activity is an extension of Activity 16. It follows the first part of the activity in which the group lays down the laws attacking Māori society (or rips the sheets). We recommend that the debrief focuses on how it makes participants feel to see this history of colonisation .

Carry out **Activity 16** Laws Attack Māori society as described in the *Tangata Tiriti - Treaty People* book, followed by a debrief as in **Activity 16 Suggestion 4** on CD or website.

Activity 16a: Māori actions

Extra time required: 10 mins

Materials & preparation: Print, cut out and laminate the activity cards below. You may want to use a different colour of paper/card, to distinguish these cards from the laws breaching the Treaty.

1. Tell the group that Māori have always been active in resisting colonisation, and trying to bring New Zealand back to the Treaty.
2. Deal out the cards, and ask each participant to read their card aloud one at a time before placing it around the Foundations. Participants should read in order of the dates on their cards.
3. If you have used the card placement alternative for the first part, invite participants to put the Māori action cards in a big circle around the four Foundations and Law cards (see Photo of cards laid out on CD). This helps to emphasise that these are Māori actions to restore the foundations of Māori society.

1835

Northern Māori sign a Declaration of Independence.

1842-1844

A rangatira from the North called Hone Heke cuts down the British flagpole four times. He does this because the British governor is making decisions that he and other Māori do not agree with.

Mid-1850s

Māori produce about half of the country's exports. In the Waikato area Māori tribes own 18 flour mills to supply flour to the Pākehā settlers in Auckland.

1858

Many Māori tribes from around the country choose a Māori King and put their land under his protection to stop it being sold.

1870s

The Māori King movement, called the Kingitanga, does not support government schools for Māori children. The Kingitanga has its own Minister of Education.

1881

Parihaka in Taranaki is the largest Māori town in the country. Its leaders use peaceful ways to stop Pakeha settlers from moving onto land that was taken by the government. When the government tries to attack Parihaka, the soldiers are greeted by children singing while the adults sit peacefully on the ground.

1884

The Māori King travels to England together with four other rangatira. They want to meet with Queen Victoria to discuss the land taken by the New Zealand government. The land was taken after the land wars and by the Native Land Court. They also want Māori to govern themselves as promised in the Treaty of Waitangi.

1892

After many years of trying to change the actions of the New Zealand government, Māori create their own parliament. The Māori Parliament is supported by many tribes from both the North and South Islands. It continues to meet for around 10 years.

1868-1909

The Members of Parliament for the four Māori seats try to pass many laws to give Māori more control over land. None of the laws are passed because they are not supported by the Pākehā Members of Parliament.

1906

Māori leader Rua Kenana starts an independent Māori community in Tuhoe country. They continue to live separate from Pākehā and govern themselves until the community is attacked by the government ten years later.

1932

Wiremu Ratana is a Māori political and religious leader. In 1932 he takes a petition with more than 30,000 signatures to Parliament asking for the Treaty of Waitangi to be put into law. This does not happen.

Two years later he gives his support to the Labour Party which is then able to win all the Māori seats in every election until the Māori Party is formed in 2004.

1951

Māori women leaders set up a national organisation called the Māori Women's Welfare League. They aim to improve Māori health, child-care and pre-school education.

1975

A huge Māori land march arrives at Parliament in Wellington after travelling the length of the North Island. Their message to the government is that “not one more acre” of Māori land should be taken.

1982

The first Kohanga Reo (Māori language pre-school) opens. By 1998 there are more than 300 Kohanga Reo around the country teaching Māori language and culture.

1995-6

Thousands of Māori attend three large hui (meetings) at Hirangi Marae by Lake Taupo. They discuss Māori sovereignty and changing New Zealand’s constitution to include the Treaty of Waitangi.

2004

About 20,000 people arrive at Parliament to protest government plans to take ownership of the foreshore and seabed.

Maori actions and responses to breaches of the Treaty Activity 16a handout

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1870s	The Māori King movement, called the Kingitanga, does not support government schools for Māori children. The Kingitanga has its own Minister of Education.
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2004	About 20,000 people arrive at Parliament to protest government plans to take ownership of the foreshore and seabed.