

Kaitiaki pēpi

Pepeha

Everyone has a pepeha that connects them to their ancestors – it helps to make links to the regions and important landmarks in the places we've come from. Pepeha identify the maunga, awa and marae that are linked to hapū and iwi.

By learning the names of these places, you can also start to learn the stories that come with them.

Pēpi may have several pepeha that link them to their different whānau. Teaching pēpi their pepeha through stories, photos, pictures or even singing, helps them grow up feeling connected and familiar with who they are and where they're from.



Example of a simple pepeha:

Ko _____ tōku waka

Ko _____ tōku maunga

Ko _____ tōku awa

Ko _____ tōku hapū

Ko _____ tōku marae

Ko _____ tōku iwi

Ko _____ tōku ingoa



Repeating whakapapa and pepeha to pēpi is great for growing their hinengaro mīharo, their amazing brain.