

Kowhaiwhai

Aims:

To investigate, discuss, and record the traditional Maori craft form of Kowhaiwhai. through understand the significance of story that accompanies each of the generic patterns and the place that this craft form has in the meeting house on Te Marae.**PK, DI, CI, UC.**

Objectives:

At the successful conclusion of this unit students will be able to;

- Research, identify, and collect relevant information regarding Kowhaiwhai
- Employ drawing techniques suitable for the purpose of exploring ideas
- Identify and understand how individual patterns employ symbolism and convey meaning
- Using techniques and conventions from Traditional Maori craft of Kowhaiwhai to develop your own ideas.

Resources:

Assessment schedule:

Credit	Merit	Excellence
<p>The work you produce needs to show how you have made decisions about the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research, identify, collect, and discuss relevant information regarding Kowhaiwhai with purpose and skill • Employing drawing techniques suitable for the purpose of exploring ideas • Identifying and understanding how individual patterns employ symbolism and convey meaning • Using techniques and conventions from Traditional Maori craft of Kowhaiwhai to develop your own ideas. 	<p>The work you produce needs to show how you have made decisions about the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research, identify, collect, and discuss relevant information regarding Kowhaiwhai with purpose and skill • Employing drawing techniques suitable for the purpose of exploring ideas with control and purpose • Identifying and understanding how individual patterns employ symbolism and convey meaning with purpose • Using techniques and conventions from Traditional Maori craft of Kowhaiwhai to develop your own ideas with control and purpose. 	<p>The work you produce needs to show how you have made decisions about the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research, identify, collect, and discuss relevant information regarding Kowhaiwhai with purpose and fluency. • Employing drawing techniques suitable for the purpose of exploring ideas with control and purpose with fluency control and purpose • Identifying and understanding how individual patterns employ symbolism and convey meaning convincingly • Using and clearly integrating ideas, techniques and conventions from Traditional Maori craft of Kowhaiwhai to develop your own ideas, with purpose and fluency

Kowhaiwhai

Generally appear on the rafter patterns inside the Whare Nui
The Whare Nui is usually an ancestor, and the rafters represent the ribs.

The traditional colours of Kowhaiwhai are;

RED = to represent warmth, Blood, Life

WHITE = to represent purity, promise for the future, a new unfolding or awakening

BLACK = to represent the earth.

When the patterns and colours are put together they traditionally create a visual balance, and a sense of symmetry. The paint was traditionally put on in the direction of the design.

The patterns and designs are a reflection of the basic principles of Maori life representing balance;

Positive - negative

Light - dark

Male - female

(sacred) Tapu - Noa (common)

Rangi - Papa

Sky - earth

Life - death

Examples

Mangopare-not hammerhead

The artist vied his intentions by making "pitau" strong.

The proverb "Kia Mate Te Wheki, kei Mate Te Ururoa" meaning, a warrior mortally wounded in battle, would rather fight on like a shark than be like an octopus that gives up and waits to be killed.

The movement of the design represents the movement of the shark in the sea, and serves to remind us of the journey from Hawaiki by sea. Hawaiki in turn reminds us of our Whakapapa (since this is where the ancestors journeyed from)

It is popular as a main beam design, because it is symbolic of the strength of the tribe.

Patikitiki (flounder)

To represent the desire to look after and provide for Manuhiri (grandchildren)

Tarere

Whakapapa single line of descent

Ngatu Kaka

red kaka beak plant suggests the beak of the kaka also the berry the bird eats

Whakamoe

The principle of genealogy, interlocking pairs; Rangi and Papa

The open spaces of the whakamoe design are obscure and difficult to know as the Kowhaiwhai pattern will lose "Mana" if the meaning becomes common knowledge.

Shark fin;

is the symbol of shark characteristics

To fight, and even beyond death (Utu)

Fishing, a caught shark is dangerous hours after being caught

Symbolic of power and strength

Is used in symbolism as a reminder of the strength that our ancestors have on us today. To use our inherited riches to advantage.

A sign of hospitality, and wealth.