

Create a Memory Star



Introduction

Matariki is a special time to reflect on the past year, celebrate the present, and look forward to the future. Just like the stars of Matariki remind us of people, stories, and the natural world, **your Memory Star will help you remember and honour five important moments from your year.**

Each point of your star can tell a story—something you learned, loved, or achieved in the past year. This is your chance to celebrate your journey in a way that connects with the spirit of Matariki—remembering, sharing, and looking ahead with hope.

What you will need:

- **Pepa** - Paper or card (for your star)
- **Kutikuti** - Scissors
- **Mahi toi** - Art materials (like coloured pencils, pens, markers, paint, or collage items)
- **Kāpia** - Glue or tape (if needed)
- **Ripene** - String or ribbon (optional)

Instructions:

1. First, reflect on your year. Think of five special memories or events that stood out to you. Talk to a loved one about why these moments were meaningful.
2. Next, design your star. It should have five points—one for each memory—but you can choose the size, shape, and style. Be creative with your design.
3. On each point of the star, draw or create a symbol that represents one of your five memories. You can use colour, shapes, words, or drawings to show what each memory means to you.
4. Decorate your star however you like. Add patterns, borders, colours, or even collage items to make it unique and personal.
5. Finally, find a safe and special place to display your Memory Star. You might hang it with string, place it on a wall, or include it in a Matariki display at home or school.

Reflect:

- How did it feel to look back on your year? Why did it make you feel that way?
- How do you think the Memory Star you created connects with the meaning of Matariki?
- If you made another star next year, what do you hope one of your new memories would be?

Purpose and Connection

The rise of Matariki is a time for reflection. Guided by the whetū Matariki, this activity supports tamariki to reflect on their year while refining their artistic skills. This activity also encourages reflection, helping us to learn from what we observe, test, and experience. Just like in experimentation, looking back helps us move forward with greater understanding.