

“BONE” CARVINGS

Number of participants: no restrictions

Duration: 20 minutes

Age Restrictions: None

Brief Description:

Carving was an important tradition in Maori culture, as the Maori people had no written language, artwork encapsulated beliefs and carried stories through time. This represents the person’s spirit being absorbed into the carving. When bone is worn against skin, it begins to change color. In this way, a carving carries the spirit of those who have worn it, and they are often passed down through generations, carrying the spirits of ancestors.

Space Requirements: Table with art tablecloth

Supplies:

- Air Dry Clay—preferably white
- Necklace String
- Toothpicks
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Activity Instructions:

Select a symbol to recreate.



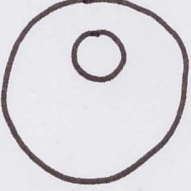

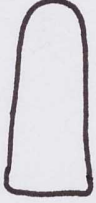


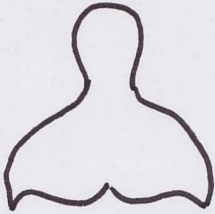
Using the clay make the shape you selected

If need be, make a hole with a toothpick for the necklace.

Once dried, sting the necklace.

NEW ZEALAND: MAORI SYMBOLS

As you research New Zealand record your favourite facts on this chart.

<p>Koru (Spiral)</p> 	<p>Representing the unfolding silver fern frond, symbolizing 'going back to the beginning.' A symbol of hope, perfection, new life, personal growth, purity, nurturing, rejuvenation, peace, rebirth, and awakening.</p>	<p>Matau (Fish Hook)</p> 	<p>A fish hook of high quality would be a valuable possession for fishermen. A symbol of abundance, good health, prosperity, power, authority, respect for the sea. Also provides good luck and safety while traveling over water.</p>
<p>Pikorua (Single Twist)</p> 	<p>Representing eternal emerging paths in life. Symbol of the strength of the bond between two people, love, loyalty and friendship. People may take different paths in life but they will always be connected and shall return to each other.</p>	<p>Triple Twist</p> 	<p>Representing the bond between peoples and cultures, given as an offering of friendship between different tribes. Symbol of the three baskets of knowledge.</p>
<p>Toki (Adze)</p> 	<p>Representing an axe head. A symbol of strength, determination, control.</p>	<p>Tear Drop (Roimata)</p> 	<p>This is a stylized version of the toki. It is a comfort stone for healing, reassurance and positive energy. Symbolizes strength, power, pride and independence.</p>
<p>Circle (Porowhita)</p> 	<p>Representing the never ending circle of life and nature, the belief that life has no beginning and no end. Symbolizes a never-ending journey of discovery and rediscovery.</p>	<p>Maori Whale Tale (Muri Paraoa)</p> 	<p>Representing the support often shown by dolphins & whales to humans in distress. A symbol of protection, speed, strength, success, confidence, sensitivity, and the bond between human and animal. A good luck charm for safe passage over water.</p>

