

34. WHAKARONGO AKE

Whakarongo ake au	<i>I listen</i>
Ki te tangi a te manu	<i>To the cry of the bird</i>
I runga i te rangi e	<i>In the skies above</i>
E karanga ana mai	<i>I heed his call</i>
Nō hea tō mana	<i>Where is the source of your prestige</i>
E te iwi Māori e	<i>You, the Maori people?</i>
E koe e manu	<i>You, bird</i>
I runga i te rangi	<i>In the skies above</i>
Tēnā whakarongo mai	<i>Hear me!</i>
Ko te mana i ahau	<i>The prestige that I have</i>
Nō aku tūpuna	<i>Comes from my ancestors</i>
Nō tua whakarere e	<i>From the very beginnings of time</i>
Hī auē hī, hī auē hā	<i>Hī auē hī, hī auē hā</i>
Auē hā, hē, hī, hō, hū	<i>Auē hā, hē, hī, hō, hū</i>
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Hei runga, hei raro	<i>As above, so below</i>
Kss auahi ana	<i>I leap passionately</i>
Ka rawe taku nei mahi auē	<i>I excel in that which I do now</i>
Ko Papa kei raro, Rangi runga rā	<i>Papa below me, Ranginui above me</i>
Homai tō aroha	<i>Lend us your support</i>

This waiata uses the imagery of birds to explain the importance of whakapapa or ancestors. It finishes with a haka and is an uplifting waiata celebrating ancestry. Develop actions that reinforce understanding of the words.

Use the first two lines to extend vocabulary, replacing the word “manu” with other nouns, such as “pere” (bell), “pēpi” (baby), “motokā” (car), “kau” (cow), and “ngeru” (cat).

Use the lines “Nō hea tō mana?” and “Nō aku tūpuna” to focus on the language pattern “Nō hea ...?” and “Nō ...”. Have students practise the question and response in small groups or pairs.

The song sheets for all waiata and haka are at the back of this book.