

Book review

Māori made fun

Category: Book Reviews

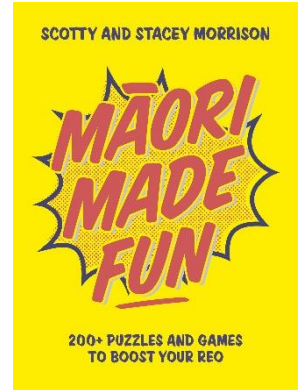
Author: by Scotty Morrison, Stacey Morrison

Year: 2020

Publisher: Penguin Random House

ISBN: 9780143775294

Audience: Community



Scotty and Stacey Morrison need no introduction to those who are learning Te Reo Māori. They are strong advocates for revitalising the language, utilising their clever strategies and innovative teaching techniques to help others learn. Bringing Te Reo Māori into the family home and into workplaces is a passion they both have. Scotty and Stacey Morrison have authored many books on the language, and their latest title *Māori Made Fun* is another brilliant collaboration from the pair.

The idea for a Te Reo Māori puzzle and games book came about from Morrison family trips "in the olden days" when the kids enjoyed doing activity books. The couple thought a Māori version suitable for all ages and language abilities could be fun.

Māori Made Fun is an interactive, hands-on new way for everyday learners to practise and learn Te Reo Māori. With 200 fun activities, it features crosswords, word finds, rhyming riddles, visual puzzles, colouring-in, code crackers and number puzzles. It's aimed at making te reo easier and more accessible for both beginners and more confident speakers of all ages. The book proves that even if we only have a minute to spare, we can always get some practise in and put our te reo to use.

Stacy Morrison says: "There's playfulness in the reo. It's one of the parts of the reo you sometimes miss. Your kids will feel good that they know as much or even more than you. That's the playfulness that we want to encourage. This gives you a chance to do something together where Māori is part of your life. It's a tiny but impactful way that you can do that."

I couldn't agree more with this statement. To me, *Māori Made Fun* is a great resource to use and to re-connect with your whānau. It gives you a chance to do something together without the use of digital devices. All in all, the book is a great addition to anyone keen to increase their knowledge and fluency of Te Reo Māori.

Tōku reo tōku ohooho, tōku reo, tāku māpihi maurea
My language is my awakening, my language is the window to my soul

Reviewed by Wharepaoro Christie, Kaiwhakarite Māori Development Specialist, MHF