

# MAKE: A POROTITI (SPINNING DISC)



**Kia ora! I'm Marina, a Māui dolphin.  
Learn how to make a porotiti with me!  
Listen to the hum as your porotiti spins and watch  
the colours morph into each other.**



## WHAT IS A POROTITI (SPINNING DISC)?

A porotiti is a small disc on a cord that is spun to create a humming noise and mesmerising movement.

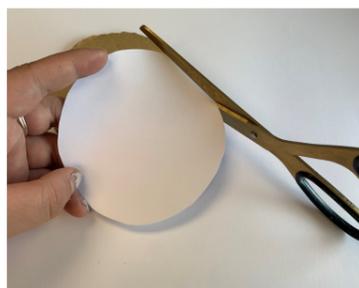
Porotiti are part of the taonga pouro group of Māori musical instruments that are linked with Tāwhirimātea, the guardian/god of the wind. This instrument can be considered a wind instrument as it's humming sound is created by its movements interacting with wind.

The soft vibrations and hum that porotiti create are believed to be used for healing or making rain.

*'Porotiti made from wood, pounamu (greenstone) and bone' Photograph by Brian Flintoff (www.jadeandbone.co.nz)*

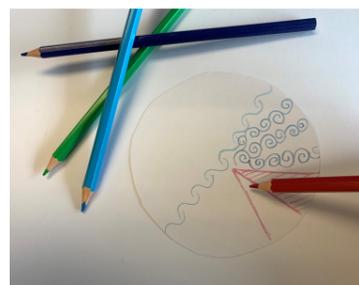
## CREATE YOUR POROTITI

Follow the steps below with the help of an adult



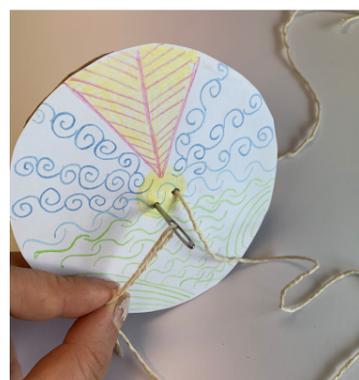
### 1. Make the disk

Measure and cut out three identical circles that are about the size of your palm, 1 made of cardboard and 2 of plain paper. Glue the 2 pieces of paper to either side of the cardboard.



### 2. Decorate

Be creative! Colour in both sides of your disc. Use lots of different colours, glitters and patterns. Your colours will morph together when the disc spins.



### 3. Thread string

In the middle of your disc, poke 2 holes with the blunt needle, about 1cm apart. Measure out 60cm of string and thread the string through the holes. Tie the ends together with a firm knot.



### WHAT YOU NEED:

string, cardboard, colouring pencils, glue, scissors and a blunt/tapestry needle



### 4. Make it spin

To spin, thread your middle finger of each hand in the loop ends of the string with the porotiti in the middle. Wind the string up by twirling the portiti in a circular motion towards your body until it feel tight again your fingers.

Then push your hands together and then pull your hands apart in a continuous motion. Your porotiti will then start to create a humming sound.