

HOW DO I PREPARE HARAKEKE FOR WEAVING?

Tikanga or Protocols for harakeke

When harvesting harakeke it's very important not to cut the Rito (child) or the central shoot of each fan leaf of the Rito, because this weakens the plant. The outer leaves are cut close to their base. Harakeke should not be harvested at night, in the rain, frost, wind or when it's in flower as this also weakens the plant.

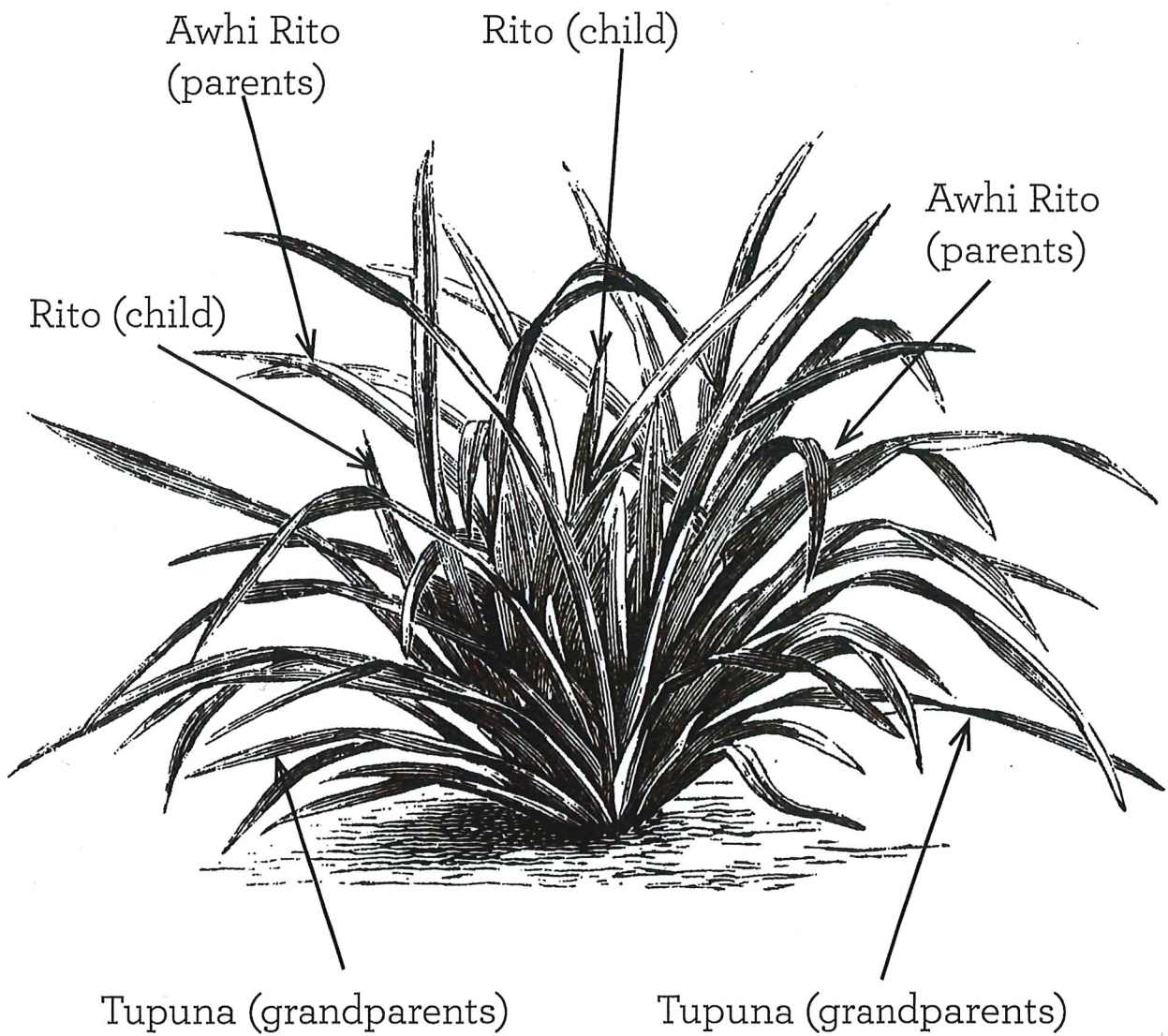
Before the weaving session begins, it is important to recite a karakia (Māori prayer) to give thanks and show respect for the tāonga (treasure) or gift of harakeke and the process of raranga (the art of weaving).

Harakeke and unfinished weaving is not to be stepped on or over and there should be no eating while working as this can be distracting to the weavers and damage the woven items.

Once started a woven item must be completed to ensure that the harakeke is not wasted and the weaver progresses.

The first woven item of any new craft is usually given away to compliment the person who is receiving it and encourage the learner to progress!

HARAKEKE PLANT



HOW MANY FLAX RELATED WORDS CAN YOU FIND?



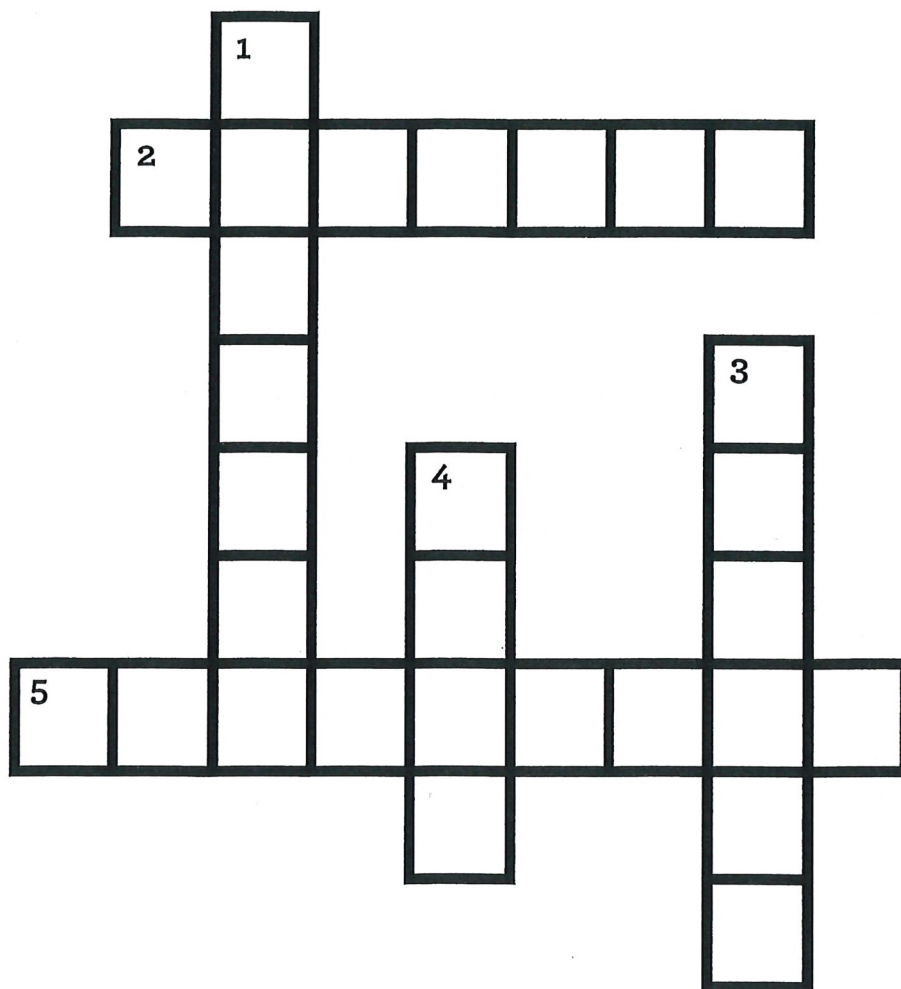
Answer

WEAVING
WHARARIKI

LEAVES
RARANGA
TIKANGA

AOHANGA
HARAKEKE
HARVESTING

COMPLETE THE CROSSWORD



Across

2. Recited at raranga session to give thanks for the tāonga.
5. What is the name of of the soft flax used for beginners or children's projects?

Down

1. Name of the basic weaving technique.
3. What do you call a container made of flax?
4. This should not be harvested in frost, rain or wind.

Answer

4. FLAX

1. RARANGA

3. BASKET

5. WHAKARIKI

2. KARAKIA

DOWN

ACROSS