

The Treaty of Waitangi is not one document. Believe it or not there are nine!

The first treaty, signed **between** the British Crown and Māori chiefs has the most signatures but the chiefs who signed came only from the north.



The treaty was **copied nine times** so that other chiefs from around the country could read it and sign if they wished. Many chiefs refused to sign and some chiefs never saw the treaty because none of the nine copies made it to their region.

The nine sheets of the Treaty of Waitangi have over 500 Māori chief's signatures. They are all New Zealand's **founding** document.

Questions (look in the text for highlight clues!)

- 1) How do we know that Waitangi is in the north of the country?
- 2) What was the main reason that the first Treaty of Waitangi was **copied nine times**?
- 3) What two groups was the Treaty of Waitangi **between**?
- 4) What was the reason that some chiefs did not sign any of the treaty copies?
 - a) They did not know how to read.
 - b) The treaty never got to them to sign.
 - c) They disagreed with trade ideas.
- 5) Around how many chiefs signed the Treaty of Waitangi?
- 6) "The Treaty of Waitangi is a very important part of New Zealand's history." Find a sentence from the story that shows this statement to be true.

New Words (look in the text for highlight clues!)

What do you think the word **founding** means in the story? Read the sentence.

Does it mean:

- a) The document was discovered.
- b) It helped create New Zealand.
- c) It was signed by both groups.

Describing an Action Word (Adverbs)

For each sentence find the word that describes an action.

- 1) The treaty was carefully copied.
- 2) Surprisingly the chief never saw a copy.
- 3) The chief quickly signed his name.

Many of the chiefs that signed the Treaty of Waitangi signed by showing their facial moko or tattoo. This represented who they were.

There were 13 Maori women / wahine that also signed the Treaty of Waitangi.

