

OCEANIA

New Zealand: Mā, Whero (8 or more players)

Part of the game 'Mā, Whero,' is reminiscent of Kapa Haka. Kapa literally means to form a line (Kapa) and dance (Haka). You may have seen the New Zealand rugby teams perform a Haka before a match. Kapa Haka involves a combination of song, dance and chanting. Originally Kapa Haka was used in battle to intimidate opponents, but today it is an important cultural symbol of community and strength. Performers in a Haka use body motions and expressions including: bulging eyes, trembling hands, stomping feet, jumping to the side and slapping the body with their hands. Try introducing some of these into your game.

How to play: Players are put in two teams: Mā (White) and Whero (Red).

The teams line up beside each other in the centre of a field. Opposing players are paired off to face each other and must perform the actions or stances a leader calls out.

When the leader calls 'Mā,' the Mā team must run to their end of the field without being caught by the Whero team. The same thing goes for the Whero team when their name is called. The team that catches the most players when the game is over wins.

"Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy."

Psalm 47:1

Fiji: Pani (6 or more players)

Pani is a popular game in Fiji. It is the main event in the Team Fiji Games! To play the game you will need at least 10 empty tin cans and a small ball.

How to play: Divide the players into two teams and stack the tin cans between the two groups. The captain of the first team tries three times to knock down all the cans by throwing the ball. If they cannot do so, the other team is given three turns.

If one captain knocks the cans down, the other team tries to stack them back up while the first team members keep trying to knock them down with the ball. At this point, the team must pass the ball to a new player between each throw. After the cans are stacked up again, a new game starts. The second team quickly counts to 10 and then tries to knock the cans down with the ball. If a player is hit with the ball, they are out of the game.

Our prayer for Oceania

Let us pray for the people of Oceania and missionaries who deliver God's love there.

We pray that we may all value and care for the oceans and sea life and all those whose work involves the sea.

Amen.



Projects we support in Oceania

Thanks to your support for Missio Scotland, we were able to buy school books for some of the children who attend Inclusive Early Childhood Programme Centres in Papua New Guinea.