

# The Treaty of Waitangi

## Teachers' Notes

### Background

This activity sheet is meant to supplement the programme of study on the Victorians at Key Stage 2.

The Treaty of Waitangi is an excellent example of how the British negotiated with the native peoples that they came to rule over as the Empire expanded. The British authorities clearly treated the Maori differently from some of the other native peoples that they came into contact with, particularly in Australia and Africa.

### Activities

The activities in the sheet that you hand out to your pupils gives them the background to the signing of the Treaty. It is also intended to develop their historical skills, particularly in the critical use of primary and secondary sources.

### More Information

If you would like to know more on the background on the Treaty of Waitangi then there are two general histories of New Zealand that deal with the subject in some detail. They should be available through your local library service.

John H. Chambers *New Zealand the Pacific Islands: A Traveller's History*  
Windrush Press (2003)

Keith Sinclair (ed.) *The Oxford Illustrated History of New Zealand* Oxford  
University Press (1997)

The New Zealand government has produced an excellent website all about the Treaty of Waitangi. It contains important documents, background information and downloadable resources. You can find it at:

<http://www.treatyofwaitangi.govt.nz/>

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