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Kites

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Introduction

A kite flies in the wind.

It is made out of light material. The kite is held by a long piece of string.

Someone on the ground has to hold the string.

The wind lifts the kite off the ground.



History

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Kites have been around for a long time.

Kites were used in China over two thousand years ago.

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Using kites

People use kites for different reasons.

Kites can be used to study the weather or to send messages.

Kites can be used for sport and for fun.



Māori kites

Māori kites are called **manu tukutuku** or **manu aute**.

Manu is the word for bird and kite.

Tukutuku is when you wind out the string as the kite goes up.

Aute is the bark that can be used to make a kite.



Different kinds of kites

There are many different kinds of kites.

They can be made out of different materials and be different shapes.









How to fly a kite

There needs to be the right amount of wind to fly a kite.

A tail on your kite helps it to fly straight.

You need to find a clear, empty space to fly a kite. A field, park or beach is a good place to fly a kite.



Be careful

Before you fly a kite you must check that you are in a clear space.

Make sure you are far away from buildings, tall trees and power lines.



