

An illustration of a Māori waka (canoe) on the ocean. The waka is yellow and has two Māori men inside. One man is standing at the front, and the other is sitting at the back. The ocean is blue with white-capped waves. In the background, there is a large, brown cliff with a green top. The sky is blue with white clouds. The word 'Māui' is written in large, green, stylized letters with a white outline across the center of the image.

# Māui

# Who is Māui?

Māui is the great trickster in Māori mythology. He is considered a clever and gifted demigod.

There are many stories about Māui, both in Māori history and in the history of other Polynesian cultures.

There are legends about Māui and his conquests.

There are variations in all of his stories but the morals and role model are the same.

Māui is thought to have magical powers, but he is human and lives as humans do.



# Māui's Birth

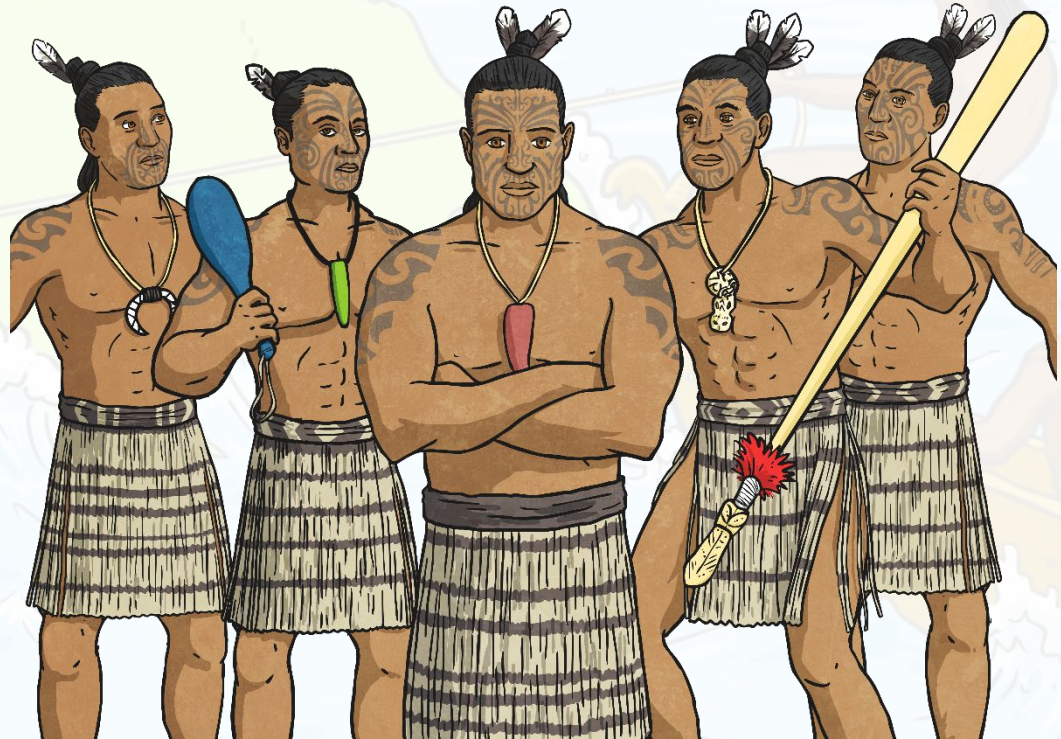
Some legends say Māui was born premature and his mother thought he was dead. She wrapped him in a bundle of hair, her topknot (tikitiki), and threw him into the ocean. The name, Māui-Tiki-Tiki, or "Māui formed in the topknot" was given to him.



# Māui's Life

After being thrown into the sea, it is said that either Tangaroa or Rangi looked after Māui into his teen years. Māui went to look for his mother and brothers and began to live with them.

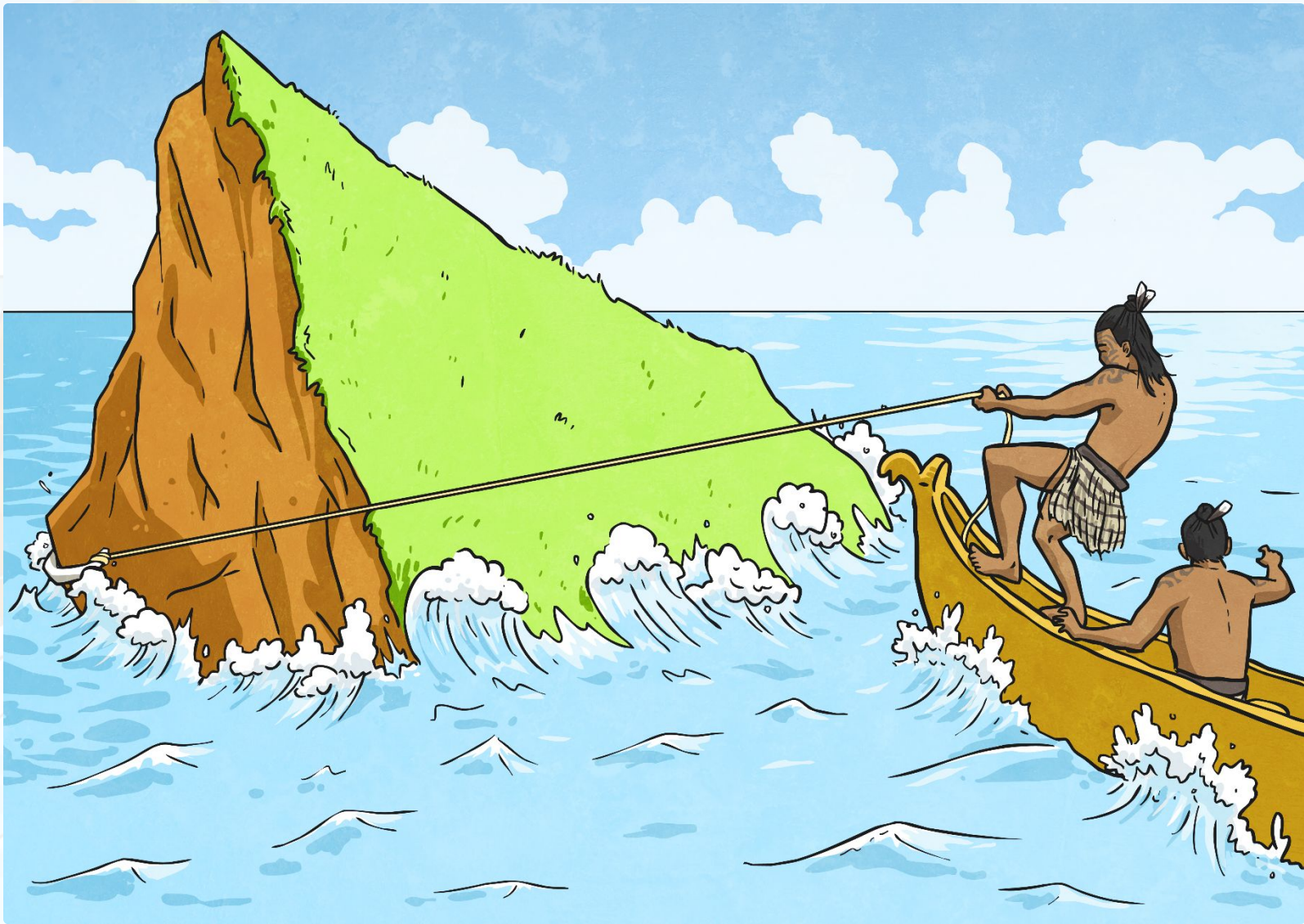
Māui is the youngest of five brothers. They are jealous of him and do not trust him.



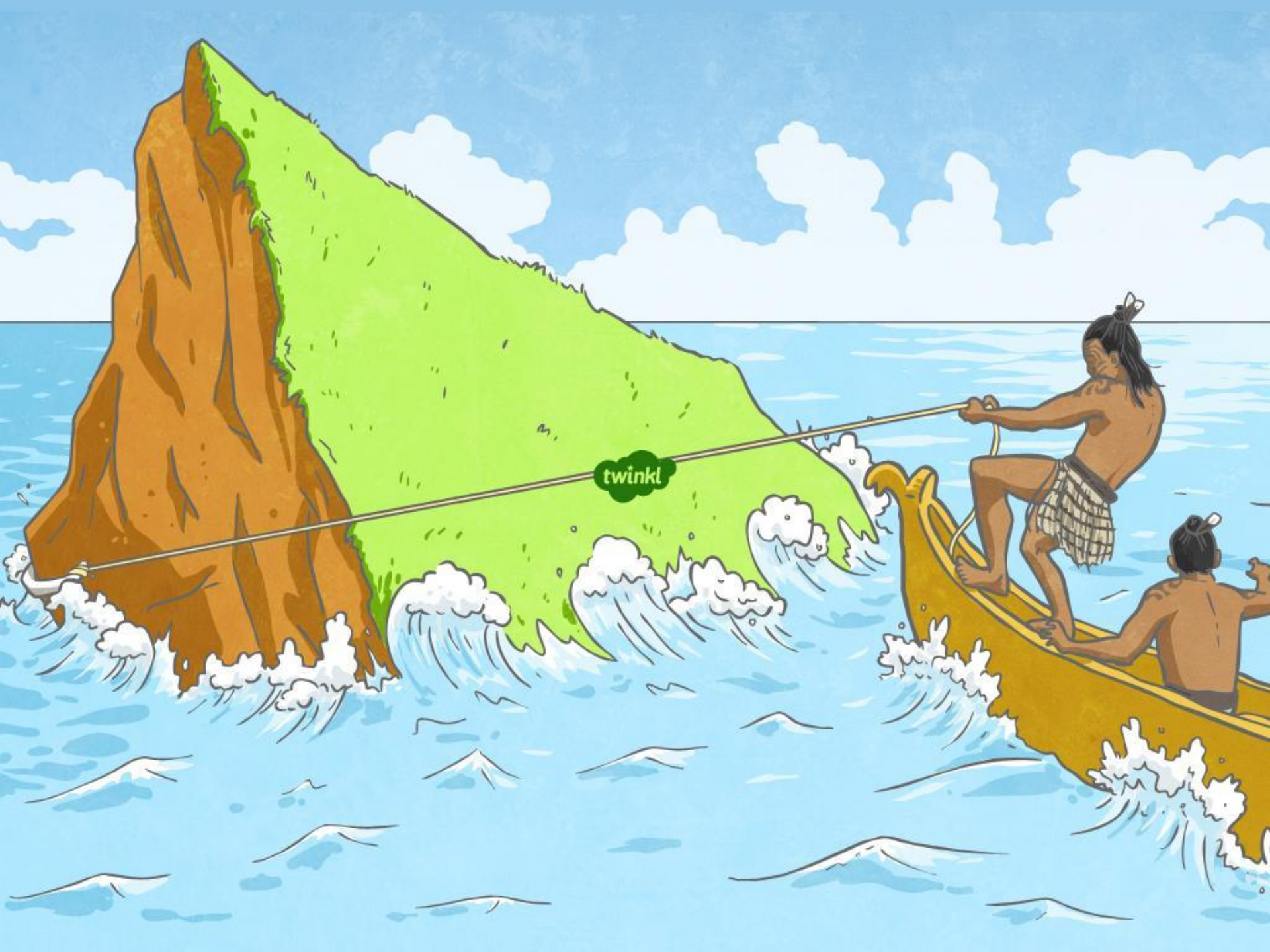
# Legends about Māui

There are many legends about Māui. He is said to have fished up New Zealand, slowed the sun and brought fire to the land.









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