



Mālama `Āina

Lesson Plan for Grades K-3

Focus Question

Why is Hawai‘i such a special place? What can we do to help keep it special?

Lesson at a Glance

In this lesson, students will study native plants and animals and how they can help them survive through a song and ‘Ōhi‘a Project lesson on taking care (mālama).

Key Concepts

The well-being of people and other things require that people keep the environment healthy. Everyone has their part to play.

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Observe and identify native plants and animals on a DVD.
- Discuss factors that affect the health of native species.
- Develop ideas on what they can do to help native species survive.
- Interpret a song through dramatization.

Standards

Standard 8: Physical, earth, and space sciences: EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE: Understand the earth and its processes, the solar system, and the universe and its contents. Benchmark 2.8.2: Identify the limited supply of natural resources and how they extend through conservation, reuse, and recycling.

Reading and Literacy Standard (Language Arts): Read for enjoyment and to gain information. Interpret text through dramatization, writing or art.

Subject Areas

Science, Language Arts

Time

1 week

Materials

- ‘Ōhi‘a Project lesson – “M is for Mālama”
- Maoli Nō DVD and DVD player Other resources on native plants and birds
- Writing/Presentation materials

Procedure

1. Introduce the lesson by showing the song, “‘Ōpae E” on the Maoli Nō DVD. Talk about the different animals they saw in the video, where they live, and what makes them rare and vulnerable to extinction. (Read about threats to native species on the DVD.)
2. Have students think about “What can I do?” to help native plants and animals survive. Help them develop ideas through discussion about the images such as discussing the water shown in the song and the importance of preserving it.
3. Dramatize the story of ‘Ōpae E.
4. Conduct the following lessons from the ‘Ōhi‘a Project: “M is for Mālama,” Humans and the Environment K-1, p. 157.

