



Ke Ao Lono

The monthly newsletter of Ka Pa‘alana
A Program of Partners in Development Foundation

WHAT WE CAN DO TO MĀLAMA HONU

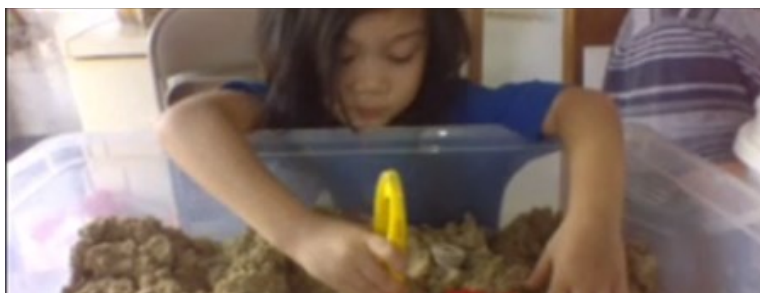
By Kathy Fong

As we closed out the theme of Mālama Honua last month, we, as a Ka Pa‘alana ‘ohana, demonstrated how we could care for the honua. The many projects that resulted from studying this theme were collaborations between caregivers and staff. It was wonderful to have families share their ideas for carrying out

Mālama Honua with their keiki.

The projects reflected the varied interests of the keiki as well as the caregivers. Families at our Hilo site decided on creating kuleana charts for their keiki. The importance of learning how to be a responsible person begins in the home first!

On O‘ahu, many families chose to do environmental clean-up days at



the beach, parks, their home surroundings, and other places of their choosing. One site focused on the mālama of live plants and guppies, while another site chose to begin a gardening project, planting herbs that

can be used for cooking at home and sharing with others.

We hope the theme of Mālama Honua has instilled in our keiki a genuine love for their world and a desire to care for it throughout their lives.



WELINA HOU!

By Naomi Patterson

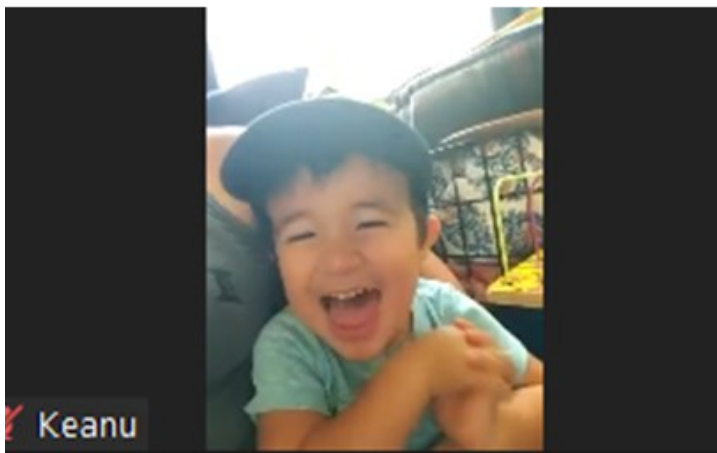
Welina hou! Welcome back! We are so excited to learn, play, and explore together again. All our keiki and wonderful caregivers have become experts at virtual learning, but we are all ready for a change. Although we have kept to a similar schedule during virtual learning, being back in person can be a signifi-

cant change for all of us. So how can we prepare ourselves and our keiki for returning in person?

Ask your child, “What do we need to do to get ready for school?”. Or, if you have an infant or toddler, talk to them about what to expect when returning to in-person preschool. Start a bedtime routine. Lay out clothes for school, go to bed at a reasonable hour, then wake up in time to pre-

pare for the day. Get excited with your child: “Who do you think we’ll see at school today?” or “I wonder what we’ll do at school today?” We can’t

school today?” We can’t wait to create new experiences and start a new chapter with our Ka Pa‘alana ‘ohana!



By: Pua Aquino
Aloha mai kākou!

Kuleana is a word that might sometimes be thrown around loosely when we say, “Whose *kuleana* is it?” or “That’s not my *kuleana*.” *Kuleana* means something different for each person and can be looked at as an achievement rather than a burden. In the context of cooking with an imu, *kuleana* were often only given to specific people, which

made these tasks even more desirable to others who did not yet have a role in the process.

We might assume our keiki cannot have *kuleana* because they are young, but Hawaiians looked at it differently. Instead of assuming our keiki’s abilities are determined by their ages, they estimated a child’s age based on the things a keiki was able to do. This ‘ōlelo no‘eau is the perfect example of it: “Ke



nui e pa‘a ai ka hue wai.”
The size that enables one to carry a water bottle.
When a child was about two, he was given a small gourd bottle for carrying water.

What if we trusted our keiki with more responsibilities? They might surprise us with what they can do, if we just give them the chance and the support to do so!

Homemade Toys

By Dolly Naeole

Toys don’t have to be expensive to be fun. In fact, you can make all kinds of educational toys for your keiki with things you already have around your house.

The following are some ideas for homemade toys: big, **empty boxes** for your keiki to crawl in and out or, stack, hide or play in; **water in a container** to scoop, fill, pour, float a toy boat; **Pots and pans** to bang, or use to dump and fill; **towels and blankets** to hide things under, play peek-a-boo, take your child for a slow ride across the floor; **plastic bottle** filled with dried beans, colored water, or rice. Seal tightly and tape to make a shaker; **laundry baskets** to throw balls into, crawl in and out of, fill with blankets or make a nest.

These are just some of the ways you can use items at home to create learning moments. As a reminder: always supervise your keiki when they play with homemade toys.

Ka Pa‘alana is funded and supported by:



American Savings
Bank



HAWAII LODGING
& TOURISM
ASSOCIATION

