

ANUALI 2024

HOPE

KE AO LONO

The monthly newsletter of Ka Pa'alana



Paw-some Study

Last month, we started our study of Pets and it's off to a great start. Pets offer valuable lessons for our keiki: they learn about empathy, responsibility, and companionship, as well as the importance of taking care of others, showing affection, being sensitive to others' needs.

As we get further into the study, keiki will dig a little deeper and learn how animals communicate, what they eat, and how to properly care for them. Keiki will also look at who gets to work with animals, and their kuleana.

Studying pets helps our keiki learn how many scoops of food pets need, how often they eat, what makes them happy, how they move, and so on.

The Pet study is shaping up to be an engaging and enjoyable experience. The keiki are gaining an understanding of the responsibilities and joys that come with caring for animals, a valuable life lesson that can extend far beyond the study itself.



Pets and Brushes: Digging Deeper

Most of us have pets, and nothing compares to the joy of coming home and seeing them. But have we ever asked ourselves why we have pets? The unconditional love of a pet can do more than keep us company. They also decrease stress and help children with emotional and social skills.

In December, children started to explore and dig deeper into pets and brushes. They cared for our class fish and were mindful of what our pet needed to survive. They learned about different domesticated pets and jobs related to caring for them, and they enjoyed our Pet Hospital dramatic play. The toddler class had a mini-study about brushes and plenty of hands-on experiences. They used brushes in arts, caring for their toy pets, and more. They gained new vocabulary and learned attributes of brushes.

We ended the year with our Annual HOPE Winter Celebration and wished everyone a Happy New Year!

By Nessa Banas



By Nida Otto



Kumu Kukui



By Pua Aquino

Aloha mai kākou!

“Mālama i ke kai” (Take care of the ocean) and “Mālama honua” (Take care of the world) are a couple examples of phrases people may have heard from time to time. However, the concept of mālama goes far beyond just the idea of taking care of something because the word mālama also implies that the person doing the action is a steward over something.

Many of us were given this gift when we became a parent. As parents, we are entrusted with the responsibility to mālama the keiki in our lives. We have the opportunity to take care of people who will have the biggest impact on this world - our keiki. Along with caring for the places we live, we should also be demonstrating how to care for people. How can we teach our keiki to not only mālama the things they have been given but to also mālama kekahi i kekahi, or to care for one another?

Taking care of pets

Pets can be an integral part of a keiki’s life, and caring for pets can help keiki develop social skills and a sense of responsibility. However, it is important to remember that young keiki may not be able to properly care for a pet on their own. Parents can encourage their keiki to take an interest in the pet’s care, but they should also be prepared to take over when necessary.

Having a pet can offer many benefits to children, including increased self-esteem, self-confidence, and trust. Pets can also help children develop non-verbal communication and empathy. Additionally, pets can provide a safe haven for children to share their secrets and serve as a valuable teaching tool about illness, accidents, and death. Overall, pets offer unconditional love and comfort to children



By Denise Mazepa

Ka Pa‘alana is funded and supported by:



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& TOURISM
ASSOCIATION



HAWAII COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



SAMUEL N. AND MARY
CASTLE
FOUNDATION



ALoha United Way



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