By: Kathy Fong

Welcome to the future! When the word “future” is mentioned, my mind is filled with images of spaceships, robots, and flying cars. That certainly is part of the future, but at Ka Pa’alana, we know it is more than that.

The theme of Piko ‘Ā has led us to begin exploring several big ideas:

**Values and behaviors** that can affect the future, such as Mālama—taking care of our natural resources and each other and Kuleana—taking responsibility;

**Growth and change** that we can experience over time personally and by observing our environment;

**Thinking about what might happen** by making predictions, playing with cause and effect, and being encouraged to use our creativity and imagination.

**Thinking beyond “me”** by providing opportunities to show gratitude and develop empathy, and asking, “How can we give back?”

As you and your keiki play with the activities in the Kōkua Kits, on ClassDojo, and during Virtual Keiki Class, we hope that you’ll share with us what your child has been learning. Where will these explorations take us? I’m looking forward to finding out!

By: Kelsey La Cuesta

During the Piko ʻŌ theme last month, our Hope keiki have learned and explored the many different aspects of people, places, and things that we are connected to in the present. We also talked about our connection to our ‘ohana, the people of our community, and even the plants and animals.

Our toddler class ended our Piko ʻŌ with a “Koʻu ‘Ohana” project. We learned about our lima and all the wonderful things we can do with them. We combined that with the love and support of our caregivers to create a memorable keepsake. Caregivers molded their hand on the air clay first and then keiki put their handprint inside. They then painted it, wrote their names, and added the date. Keiki can look back to see how much their lima has grown but also remember who was always there to give them a hand.

Our keiki class did an end-of-theme project too! They had a blast learning about different types of animals and what they need to survive. They did a lot of fun gross-motor exercises and discussed the various ways animals move! Finally, using the materials provided, keiki got creative and built their own animal habitats and houses!
What To Ask a Potential Childcare Provider

Now that things are somewhat returning back to “normal,” you might possibly be going back to work and need a childcare provider. Do you know what you want to know about them and what they provide? Here are some questions you might want to ask:

- Are they licensed?
- What are their hours of operation?
- What is their childcare provider-to-child ratio?
- Are food and drinks provided? Is there a menu?
- How do they communicate with the parents?

Follow your gut feeling. Did they seem warm and welcoming? Was your child comfortable there? This is one of the many hardest decisions we have to make, leaving our keiki in someone else’s care, so take your time making your decision.

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