By Kathy Fong

They bounce, they roll, but sometimes they don’t. They come in various shapes, colors, textures, and sizes. They could possibly be one of the oldest toys in history! Can you guess what they are?

In September we began a new study on the topic of “Balls.” What a fun topic to explore and investigate! Can you think back on some of your childhood experiences playing with balls? What kinds of balls do your children play with now? What games do you play with your keiki that includes a ball?

We hope you’re all having fun studying this topic and will learn some new things in the process that include science, physics, history, language, the arts, motor development, and more!

Hooray for balls and being able to learn so much as we play with and investigate them!


By Naomi Patterson

Balls are one of the oldest toys in history. There is so much a child can do with it. We began studying balls in September. Keiki learned the Hawaiian word for ball (kinipōpō), and the many different types of balls used for play.

Our keiki learn through play: they build math skills when they can identify a ball as a sphere or sort balls by size. Keiki build large motor muscles when they learn and practice throwing, rolling, and kicking. Problem-solving and engineering skills develop as keiki experiment with different ways to move a ball.

They’re even inventing their own games with all these wonderful and exciting spheres. What can you do with a ball?
large task, such as building a fishpond or harvesting kalo in a lo‘i, or taro patch. This practice of coming together to work toward one goal can be captured with one word, lōkahi. The Hawaiian value, lōkahi, translates to “unity, harmony, and agreement.” When soldiers march, hula dancers dance, or an orchestra plays, they are all moving with lōkahi. In order to do this, there needs to be a lot of communication and one goal in mind.

"A‘ohe hana nui ke ‘alu ‘ia."

“No task is too big when done together by all.”

October is Fire Safety Month

By Tina Kahoonei

You can prevent home fires by following safety tips:

- Install a fire extinguisher near the kitchen
- Test your smoke alarms once a month
- Create and practice a home fire escape plan
- Find two paths to the outside from every room
- Make sure there is no clutter in your pathway
- Never go back into a burning home/building
- Never take the elevator during a fire
- Make sure your important things/papers are in reach when escaping from the fire
- Appliances should be plugged into the wall outlet directly
- Make sure power cords are not under the carpets
- Store matches and lighters out of children’s reach and sight
- Teach your children never to touch lighters, matches, and stove
- If you smoke, do so outside
- Use e-cigarettes with caution
- Avoid using candles because of fire risk. Use battery-powered lights