

JULAI 2023

HOPE

KE AO LONO

The monthly newsletter of Ka Pa'alana



Hap-pea Gardening

What's more fun than playing in dirt? It's learning about gardening! Last month we began our new study on Gardening, and it's been totally radish.

Gardening has provided keiki with so many sensory experiences; they dug their hands in soil, touched the leaves of different plants, and smelled and saw all the beautiful flowers around them.

A lot of great conversations took place between caregivers and their keiki as they explored and played in their school māla (garden). What grows in a garden? What are some things that grow out of the ground? What are some things we can plant? These discussions encouraged curiosity, critical thinking, and knowledge as they learned about gardening.

We can't wait to see where this study takes us in the next month. Keiki will learn to be patient and have a sense of kuleana (responsibility) as they care for their class māla. Happy gardening!



Let's talk about gardening!

What comes to mind when you hear the word "gardening"? In June, our keiki had plenty of hands-on experience to prepare them to investigate gardening. They dug coconut coir and dirt, watered plants, and pulled weeds inside our kalo planters. They explored a variety of gardening tools. They also learned about plants that grow in a garden and how to plan and care for them.

The toddler class explored different types of rocks using their senses and talked about the different properties of rocks.

We are excited about where our exploration of gardening and rocks will lead us!

By Nessa Banas



By Nida Otto



Kumu Kukui



Welina mai kākou!

“Ike ‘ia nō ka loea i ke kuahu.”

An expert is recognized by the altar he builds.

It is what one does and how well he does it that shows whether he is an expert.

This month’s ‘ōlelo no‘eau demonstrates how we might determine if a person is an expert at something. People who claim to be experts will be judged by their ability to do what they said they could do. We need to remember however, that every expert was once an amateur.

Everyone needs to start at the beginning, and with time and dedication, they can reach the level of an expert. Our children are also amateurs striving to be experts at things. As caregivers, one of the most valuable things we can give our children is time: time to practice, time to fail, and time to become experts at what they enjoy most.

By Pua Aquino

Rhyme Time

Rhyming helps children learn about words, sounds and language formation. Hearing and using rhyme, rhythm and repetition help children develop early literacy skills. The repetition of words, ideas and skills is important for early brain development, as it creates secure foundations for early learning.

Rhyming is also a fun way to build essential reading skills. Rhyming helps children hear the sounds in words and discover that words can share the same ending. Rhyme along with daily activities. As you zip your child’s coat, call out words that rhyme with “zip” (lip, flip, trip, sip). Can your child add a word?

Keep rhyming! Rhyme with harder words, like “sock”, as you put on socks (clock, lock, block). Invite your child to join. Don’t worry if it’s a “made-up” word. Your keiki is just practicing rhyming and developing their oral language skills.



By Maria Cueva

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