Experiencing sand

Last month we began our study on sand. During the exploration phase of the study, the keiki enjoyed scooping sand into different containers, digging holes in the sand, and experimenting with water to observe how molds work. The keiki made some great discoveries, including how sand moved when it was poured and how easily the texture changed when we added water.

We encouraged lots of time to play with and interact with the sand because play helps our keiki develop while having fun. These are some of the ways that playing with sand encouraged development: MATH - compared the amount of sand in different containers; counted as they poured or scooped. COGNITIVE - discovered different toys and how to use them in sand; learned about different textures and colors of different types of sand. PHYSICAL - used hand-eye coordination when digging, scooping, or pouring.

As we move into the investigation stage of the study of sand, we hope the keiki will take a deeper look at how it is made, where it comes from, and how it can be turned into different things.

All About Sand

Did you know that sand is simply rocks, shells, and minerals that have been battered and broken down by rain, wind, and waves over the years? That is what our keiki discovered when we explored and studied sand this past month.

We played in the sandbox and examined different types of sand using magnifying glasses. We used a microscope, looked at the sand, and talked about its characteristics. We pressed sand on the sticky side of contact paper, created specimens, and made comparisons. The toddler class had fun with different types of paper and discovered their various characteristics. They enjoyed playing with cardboard, tissue paper, and other paper products. They also explored paper using their senses.

The next time you see sand and paper around, talk with your keiki and ask different questions to spark their curiosity.

By Nessa Banas

By Nida Otto
Welina mai kākou!

Have you ever admired someone? What did you admire about them? When we admire someone, it’s usually because we hold them to a high standard based on what that person is able to do or who that person is. Admiring someone can be a great motivator to be better yourself. Sometimes, the people we admire most are the people closest to us. Children often look up to their parents or caregivers because they model for them what an adult is supposed to be.

What do you think your keiki admire about you? I admire my mom’s strength and perseverance. She modeled for me that I could be anything I wanted to if I worked hard at it and didn’t give up. What qualities do we have as adults that we want our keiki to admire and strive for?

“He koaʻe, manu o ka pali kahakō.” It is the koaʻe, bird of the sheer cliffs. An expression of admiration for an outstanding person. The koaʻe build their nests on cliffs.

Teaching by example

As parents, we want to do our best to provide our children a happy, healthy, and prosperous life. Part of how we do that is by instilling in our children the values of respect, humility, care, love, and honesty so they can grow up to be positive members of society. We can start by teaching our children to say “please” and “thank you” from an early age so that it becomes something they say without being asked to.

Let’s never forget that our behavior as parents goes a long way in setting an example for our children. Demonstrating good manners to our children and partners reinforces the importance of good etiquette and respect. And remember that change does not happen overnight, so consistency and patience are the key.