TS Gold: simple machines study

Simple machines are all around us. Have you gone fishing? The fishing pole has a pulley! The ramp you built in the block center is an inclined plane. These are examples of simple machines! In this study, children learned about the characters that make up the six different types of simple machines, and investigated how each type of simple machine helps make work easier.

Simple machines

Through this study, our keiki and caregivers learned about six types of simple machines: inclined planes, wedge, wheel and axle, lever, screw, and pulleys. Keiki explored all the different ways to use these simple machines and how to create their own. We celebrated our simple machines by displaying our keiki’s creations and exhibiting photos of them interacting with various activities.

Firefighters visited us to demonstrate how they use their equipment and how these simple machines help them do their work. For example, the axe is a type of wedge and the wheel and axle help move the fire truck. The keiki took this unique opportunity to converse with the firefighters.

In addition to the many hands-on opportunities to investigate simple machines, keiki took an active part in Literacy Day! They enjoyed listening to stories and participating in activities with their caregivers.

Congratulations to our graduates! Our graduation was a fun-filled day full of activities, heartfelt moments, and music. A big mahalo to all the families who came out to support our graduates.

By Debbie Matthews
Welina mai kākou!

“ʻO ke aloha ke kuleana o kahi malihini” means, “Love is the host in strange lands.” Have you ever been to someone’s house and the first thing they want to do is feed you? This practice can be traced generations back into the Hawaiian culture.

In old Hawai‘i, every passerby was greeted and offered food, whether it was someone familiar or even a complete stranger. This ʻōlelo noʻeau is very applicable for the things that are going in the world today. Too often we hear stories of hate and violence happening toward complete strangers. This mentality is the opposite of what the Hawaiian people stood for. So as Hawaiians and local residents of these islands, let’s pass on the kuleana, or responsibility, to be stewards of this land and take care of each other, even strangers.

Summer of learning

As summer approaches, caregivers can already start thinking of activities to support their keikis’ development and learning. Here are some practical ways to make this a summer of learning:

SENSORY BINS - keiki enjoy playing with anything that involves their senses. Create sensory bins with sand or other materials, cover items, and have keiki search for them.

WATER PLAY - keiki love water, and playing with water will keep them engaged for hours. Provide water in bins and containers for them to scoop. Add measuring cups, spoons, and other materials and allow them to explore.

BUBBLES - keiki are fascinated with bubbles. You can either purchase bubble solution or make your own, and excite your keikis’ curiosity.