

KE AO LONO



TS Gold: Insects

Most children are fascinated by insects' colors, shapes, movements, and behaviors. This study encouraged children to explore different types of insects and investigate the characteristics of insects, how insects work together, how they keep themselves safe, and how they help the environment. Children also met interesting people who work with insects, explored a variety of materials used to examine insects, and created their own guide to the insects in their community.

Junior entomologists at work

The keiki buzzed with excitement as we explored our Insect theme, taking a hands-on adventure into the tiny world of bugs. Throughout the month, children observed insects up close, learned about their unique body parts and habitats, and enjoyed creative activities inspired by butterflies, ants, ladybugs, and more. It was a wonderful opportunity to spark curiosity, nurture a love of nature, and celebrate all the amazing creatures that live right under our feet! Some of the favorite activities from this study included hiding and finding pretend insects, creating insect art, and using playdough to investigate insect bodies by making impressions of them.

We were so fortunate to have the Butterfly Specialists from "Sharing the Butterfly Experience" visit Hope. This organization brought butterflies and caterpillars in all stages of their life cycle, allowing us to witness the magical transformation of these insects. The keiki were able to hold the caterpillars and butterflies and even feed them their special food. They truly enjoyed this immersive, hands-on experience. To culminate our study, we released the butterflies we had been caring for—now fully transformed and ready to fly into the world.



Kumu Kukui



By Pua Aquino

Aloha mai kākou!

“Mālama i ke kai” (Take care of the ocean) and “Mālama honua” (Take care of the world) are a couple examples of phrases people may have heard from time to time. However, the concept of mālama goes far beyond just the idea of taking care of something because the word mālama also implies that the person doing the action is a steward over something. Many of us were given this gift when we became a parent. As parents, we are entrusted with the responsibility to mālama the keiki in our lives. We have the opportunity to take care of people who will have the biggest impact on this world - our keiki. Along with caring for the places we live, we should also be demonstrating how to care for people. How can we teach our keiki to not only mālama the things they have been given but to also mālama kekahi i kekahi, or to care for one another?

New beginnings – 2026!

January is a time of fresh beginnings and renewed intentions. While many of us set personal goals for health, career, or self-improvement, it’s also the perfect moment to reflect on our parenting journey and set goals that nurture stronger family bonds, encourage growth, and bring more joy into everyday life.

Parenting resolutions can be a powerful way to build deeper connections with your children and create a more harmonious home environment. They offer a chance to start fresh, refocus on what truly matters, and work toward positive changes that benefit everyone in the family.

Consider goals such as carving out more intentional one-on-one time, committing to listening more deeply, or pausing before reacting. These simple yet meaningful resolutions can shape a more mindful and supportive parenting experience.

<https://kidsusamontessori.org/starting-fresh-top-parenting-resolutions-for-the-new-year/>



By Donna Kranz

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