Teacher’s Notes for: Hawaiian Values Activity

Use this activity at the start of your course, if possible. This example shows how 4 values can be chosen to instill a positive, focused and respectful atmosphere in the class, and give a foundation for future scientists working in Hawai‘i. Refer to the Hawaiian Cultural Values sheet in the teacher’s folder for more options, as well as the Malama-Kuleana Activities in the student folder for student and parent materials linked to this.

Suggested Activity:
- Give students an Admit Slip (provided at end of lesson) for them to hand in as they come into class next day
- Tell students you will read some of the answers anonymously & do so
- Have students come to agreement with the definition of a value

Explain that Hawaiians of long ago were very aware of the importance of things that sustained life and created balance and harmony. They respected those things because they were so important. They taught their children to live by the standards they did to preserve resources for future generations. The lessons that they passed on were the things they valued. There were many lessons to learn and live by and we will adopt four of them. They are:

**Mālama** – To care for. One saying is *Mālama i ka ʻāina, mālama i ke kai*, which means Take care of the land, take care of the sea. Both the land and sea sustain life. We could also apply mālama to our lives. *Mālama kou ola kino*. Take care of your bodies. Old Hawaiians were healthy. The worked hard, they ate well, and they resolved conflict through ho'oponopono and other means necessary to make things right.

**Lōkahi** – unity and harmony. Ho'olōkahi is to unify and gather together. It was important for people to work together to reach a common goal. Moving a log from the mountain to the ocean in order to build a canoe took many people. The people would unite to accomplish their goal. It was a difficult task but together they accomplished it.

**Pono** – Do what is right. This could be applied to many things. Early Hawaiians strived to do what was right. They maintained their crops, they only took what they needed, they kept their bodies healthy, and tried to live in harmony. If something went wrong, they would ho'oponopono or make things right again.

**Kuleana** – Responsibility. Early Hawaiians were very responsible people. Many were assigned various tasks or responsibilities and made sure they saw it through. If one was in need of help, it was his/her responsibility to seek assistance.

Science in Hawaiʻi: Nā Hana Ma Ka Ahupua’a – A Culturally Responsive Curriculum Project
Admit Slip #1

What things do you value?

How do you define the word value?

Admit Slip #1

What things do you value?

How do you define the word value?

Admit Slip #1

What things do you value?

How do you define the word value?
Admit Slip #2
Which Hawaiian value did you practice?

Describe how you practiced this value.

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Admit Slip #2
Which Hawaiian value did you practice?

Describe how you practiced this value.

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Admit Slip #2
Which Hawaiian value did you practice?

Describe how you practiced this value.