Rationale

Why teach Science with all this Hawaiian content?

Two reasons!

1. It makes science more interesting to all students; and
2. It gives all students a better sense of place, self and pride which they need to succeed

Why not just teach Science the “regular” way?

Lots of reasons!

1. Many students in Hawai’i have experienced science failure for decades (too many drop out, too many have low grades, and too few pursue science occupations)
2. Most students in Hawai’i public schools read & write below grade level, and their math and science skills and test results are low
3. Evidence-based research shows all students at risk improve with:
   - differentiated instruction for general and special education students
   - hands-on activities, concrete learning, projects & field trips
   - interaction with role models, kūpuna/elders & community members
   - adapted readings appropriate to reading level and age
   - locally relevant content focused on community, island and state
   - culturally responsive teaching methods & learning styles

   All these things are embedded in this curriculum.

4. While only some students are Native Hawaiian, we have found nearly all students in Hawai’i have a high interest in the “host” culture and all students benefit by learning about and through Hawaiian ways of knowing and doing.

Sounds like too much work?

Wrong! Here’s why …

Teachers can spend their time trying to manage the off-task behavior of bored students … Browse this curriculum! (Engaged students stay on task!)

Teachers can spend their time doing paperwork, re-inventing the wheel &/or using materials with no link to the Hawai’i Content & Performance Standards Use these SciHI lessons & activities which are already linked to HCPS III!

Sound too good to be true?

This curriculum is not a “magic bullet” but it is intended to make teaching and learning easier, more enjoyable and more beneficial for all teachers and students in Hawai’i. Let us know if it does! ☺