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Exciting news is upon us as we dive into a world of imagination, collaboration, and artistic exploration through <u>The Lōkahi Art Project</u>. This fantastic journey invites our 5th Graders to leave your unique mark on our school and community through the power of art.

I am thrilled to announce the return of the incredibly talented teaching artist, **Ms. Alyce Dodge**! You might remember Ms. Dodge from the vibrant transformation of our <u>Grade 5 Storage Shed into a captivating mural</u> last school year, alongside the guidance of Kumu Alston. Their synergy brought our school landscape to life, embodying the spirit of creativity and teamwork. This year, they're joining forces once again to ignite our artistic passions and guide us through this mesmerizing project.

The Lōkahi Art Project is made possible by a generous grant from the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts through their Artists in the School Program and Public Art in Public Places Initiative. This initiative not only supports the arts within our school but also celebrates our local culture and heritage, allowing us to connect more deeply with the incredible beauty of Hawaii.

Our artistic adventure doesn't stop at murals - this time, we're shaping our dreams into reality through clay! We'll embark on a hands-on journey to create our very own clay sculptures. But before we dive into the clay, we'll draw inspiration by analyzing the profoundly meaningful Public Art in Public Spaces sculpture that graces our campus. This piece stands as a testament to the power of public art in enriching our daily lives and surroundings.

Get ready to mold, shape, and express your artistic vision through The Lōkahi Art Project. Mrs. Dodge and Kumu Alston can't wait to see the incredible creations that you'll bring to life. Let's make this year's project a masterpiece that reflects the vibrant spirit and unity of our school community. **Stay tuned for more updates, and let your creativity soar! REMINDER:** Please complete online homework assignments for this project **BEFORE** each class session.



A global art challenge to protect the Earth

The Extraordinary Earth Project runs from August 2023 – June 2024, and is free to all.

studentsrebuild.org/earth

Kumu Alston is now collecting reusable recycled materials (paper, plastic bottles, toilet paper rolls, etc.) in our new classroom recycling bins! In addition, students that demonstrate Aloha 'Āina may earn a special sticker reward from Kumu Alston for their kindness.

In the spirit of honoring our culture and relationship to our aina (land), we will be participating in the **Extraordinary Earth Project** for class. As part of this project, I am requesting students to start "saving their trash" at home as homework. Towards the end of the year, we will dedicate a class session to creating art projects using recycled materials. Students can also complete art pieces at home for submission. All art submissions must be within the following themes:

Repurposing Waste Clean Air

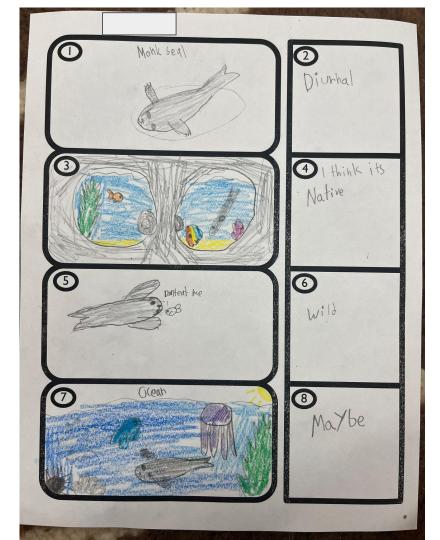
Deforestation Ecosystems

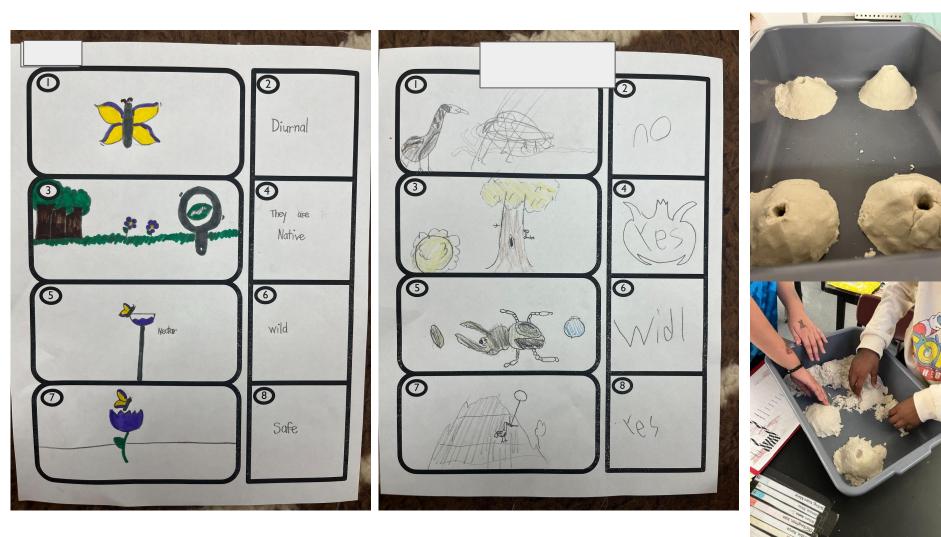
Moreover, for each artwork submitted to the project, the Bezos Family Foundation will generously donate \$5 to organizations working towards addressing environmental issues in response to the ongoing climate crisis. Please contact Kumu Alston for submission details.

https://kumu.alston.fun/earth

Ms. C **3-5 STEM**

This month, as a class, we did a lot of exciting activities. One of the highlights was a visit from a guest speaker who conducted a place-based illustration survey specifically for the 5th grade. Additionally, the students in grades 3-5 had the opportunity to work with kinetic sand and build the four main types of volcanoes: shield, composite, cinder, and dome. 5th grader in Ms. Itos class also worked in the garden and has so much fun !







Ms. A's K - 2 Grade S.T.E.A.M.

Ms A's STEAM classes have all been learning about our ocean environment and how coral reefs are so important. Each class has learned that coral is an animal with many coral mouths (Polyps). Corals are important food for fishes and create habitats for our ocean animals to thrive in.





COMPUTER LAB WITH MR. GENUS



This month 4th and 5th grade students finished working on two major graphic design projects while K-3 Computer focus on their keyboarding curriculum.

Grades 4 and 5 just finished the "Showcase AI" creativity art contest and the story book Malama the Monkseal using AI images.

The story book of Malama the Monkseal was written by Andree Paradis and originally used images in watercolor made by Keo Genus. Our exploration of AI images made us rethink both the images and text. The outcome was a Collaboration of Teachers and students in creating a book produced through Jefferson Elementary School. Each page vary according to the student's aesthetic for font, background colors and slide design. Check out our work!

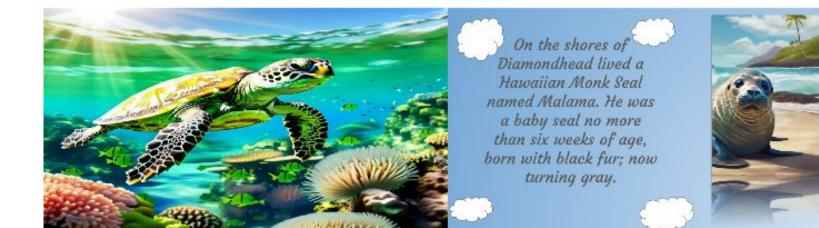
Malama the Monk Seal

Written by Andree Paradis Graphics and Edit By Keo Genus (AI ART from Kidgeni and Pixlr

Text transcribed and designed by Jefferson Elementary Students







He was a very lively and curious seal. He looked up and down, side to side on the rocks and reefs of the sea shore.



As Malama grew, his mother Aloha, taught him how to be a good seal.

Aloha showed Malama where to find lobster, fish, octopus and crabs; the buffet of delicious food that monk seals like to eat.





His mother, a wise monk seal, said to Malama "Do not eat the fishes with hooks, they will jab your mouth and sting "



She also taught Malama which parts of the beach be could lay and rest, and the places to stay away.

Aloha told Malama about people and curious dogs who try to get close.

"People are supposed to stay yards away from us so we can sleep peacefully!" said Aloha to Malama.



Malama knew that he was not supposed to eat the fish with hooks, but he was so hungry and Malama thought to himself, "A small bite won't hurt anyone, right?"



But Malama couldn't help it. After just one small bite he was hooked, and couldn't resist in gobbling up the whole fish.



Malama's mouth stung, hurt and throbbed just as his mother said.





Malama cried and wailed. The two fishermen on the seahorse were startled by Malama's squeals and wondered what will had happened to the baby seal.

"Hey bruh, I think you snagged a Hawaiian Monk Seal!"

said one fisherman to the other. Malama was afraid. The fisherman knew they shouldn't get too close or touch the seal.



They thought the best way to help the baby seal was to call the NOAA Fisheries Response, trained people who knew how to remove the hook.

While the fisherman waited for the response team to show up, they watched to make sure other people wouldn't get too close to Malama. concerned that curious people could get too close to the Hawaiian Monk Seals, the two fishermen decided to place a sign warning fishermen and beachgoers to stay yards away.



Malama was freed from the fishing hook said to Aloha. "I'm Sorry mama, you told me not to eat the fishes with hooks and I didn't listen to "

The mother seal tenderly smiled at Malama said, "From now on, eat like a good seal. Eat good food like lobsters, crabs, octopus and fish and you will grow big and strong.

And never eat the fishes with hooks again!



Malama understood and agreed with his mother. From then on Malama obeyed the rules his mother taught him, and he lived peacefully with the other Hawaiian Monk Seals on the shore of Diamond Head.





Where are Hawaiian Monk Seals found?

Only in Hawaii!

Is the Hawaiian Monk Seals endangered?

Yes, one of the world's most endangered. Only 1,100 remain.

Should you call the 24 hour hotline 1-888-256-9840 if you sight a seal on the beach?

Yes. Your reports help NOAA Fisheries respond to hooked or injured seals, track potentially harmful coal behavior, and