LESSON: The Story of Hāloa
UNIT 5: Ho'oulu ‘Ai (Agriculture & Botany)

Objectives:
To gain an understanding, through native perspective, the beginning of the Hawaiian people.
To compare and contrast similarities and differences between the story of Haloa and one's sense
of self, family and place.
To bring students to develop a relationship with the land.

Science-Related Careers/Employers: farmer, conservationist, Department of Land & Natural
Resources

Minutes: Suggested Sequence:
15-20 1. READ one of the versions of the story of Hāloa entitled “Connection to
everything around us.” This can be done in small groups that report back to
the class on the section they read; Debrief story with students.

15-30 2. WATCH part of “The Meaning of Food” a PBS video series (There are three 1
hour sections: Food & Life, Food & Culture, and Food & Family. Section 2
explores kalo amongst many other cultural foods of America. Purchase the
video series for $25 and download lessons plans and other resources at:
http://www.pbs.org/opb/meaningoffood/). See enrichment section below for
other video resources related to kalo for teachers and students.

15 3. WRITE: Allow students to make connections between Haloa Story and
cultural values focusing on sense of self, family, and place using the Venn
Diagram handout

10 4. DISCUSS differences and commonalities in small groups; Ask students to
share their insights as a large group.

10 5. WRITE a reflection “Why might Hawaiians feel that the land and Kalo is
sacred?”

5 6. Close session by reciting Papahanaumoku chant.

Total = 70+ min

Materials:  • **For teacher:** Guest Speaker with Hawaiian cultural expertise
• **For students:** Hāloa Story, Venn Diagram handouts, Internet access & projector or multiple
computers
• **Safety:** n/a

Assessment/Performance Indicators:  • **Informal assessment:** Observation, listening, participation,
Venn Diagram completion
• **Formal assessment:** none.

Suggested Points:
10 pts. For full participation
15 pts. For thoughtful
completion of Venn Diagram

Ka Hana ‘Imi Na’aauo – A Science Careers Curriculum Resource Go to: www.cds.hawaii.edu/kahana
PARTIALLY FIELD TESTED. Retrieved & adapted 5/19/09 from:
http://kokuakauai.ning.com/
**Exceeds Expectations:**
- Read/listened entirely to story.
- Participated fully in class discussion.
- Made insightful connections to story and personal values.

**Meets Expectations:**
- Read/listened entirely to story.
- Participated 60% in class discussion.
- Made connections to story and personal values 60% of the time.

**Needs Improvement:**
- Read/listened partially to story.
- Participated less than 60% in class discussion.
- Made connections to story and personal values less than 60% of the time.

### Hawaiian Values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>✓ Ahonui</th>
<th>Akahai</th>
<th>Aloha</th>
<th>Alaka‘i</th>
<th>✓ Ho‘ihi</th>
<th>✓ Kuleana</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(patience)</td>
<td>(modesty)</td>
<td>(loving)</td>
<td>(leadership)</td>
<td>(respect)</td>
<td>(responsibility)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laulima</td>
<td>Lōkahi</td>
<td>✓ Mālama</td>
<td>✓ Na‘auao</td>
<td>✓ ‘Olu‘olu</td>
<td>✓ Pono</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(helpful)</td>
<td>(harmony)</td>
<td>(caring)</td>
<td>(wisdom)</td>
<td>(positivity)</td>
<td>(right behaving)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Learning Styles:

- ✓ Left Brain
- ✓ Right Brain
- ✓ Auditory
- ✓ Visual
- Kinesthetic/Tactile
- ✓ Spatial

**Keywords:** Haloa, Papa, Wakea, Taro, Kalo, keiki o ka ‘aina, ‘aina (land), maka ‘ainana, ‘ohana, Papahanaumoku (Earth Mother) & Wakea (Sky Father), Ho‘ohokukalani (makes stars in the sky)

**Enrichment/Extension:**
- Watch online the 7 minute video “Kalo: Our Brother” at: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVYhr3xp0S8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVYhr3xp0S8) &/or have students search YouTube for these videos: Islands at Risk – GMO in Hawai‘i (30 min.); GMO Taro Protest 2006 in HI (6 ½ min.); ‘Living Pono’ w/ Jason Scott Lee (10 min.); Pounding Taro w/ Danny (9 min.).
- Read the book The Kumulipo for the entire story of the origin of the Hawaiian people.
- Explore the Hawai‘i Dept. of Agriculture’s website on Food Self Sufficiency in the islands at: [http://hawaii.gov/hdoa/add/food-self-sufficiency](http://hawaii.gov/hdoa/add/food-self-sufficiency)

**NHEC’s Hawaiian Cultural Pathways**

- ✓ ‘Ike Honua (A Value of Place)
  Strong understanding of place and appreciation of the environment and the world at large, and the delicate balance necessary to maintain it for generations to come.

- ✓ ‘Ike Kuana‘ike (Value of Cultural Perspective)
  Global understanding that provides views and vantage points from which to see and operate in the world.

- ✓ ‘Ike Mauli Lahui (Value of Cultural Identity)
  Strengthened and sustained Native Hawaiian cultural identity through practices that support the learning, understanding, behaviors, and spiritual connections through the use of the Hawaiian language, cultural, history, traditions and values.

- ✓ ‘Ike Piko‘u (Value of Personal Identity)
  Promoting personal growth and development, and a love of self, which is internalized and develops into a sense of purpose/role. (Growing aloha and internalizing kuleana to give back)

- ✓ ‘Ike Pilina (Value of Relationships)
  Enriching our relationships between the people, places and things that influence our lives through experience that ground us to our spirituality and connect us to our genealogy, culture, and history through time and place.
Mele Kumu Honua (Traditional Chant)

**One**: ‘O Wakea noho ia Papa  
Wakea lived with Papa (begetter of islands)

**All**: Hanau ‘o Hawai‘i, he moku  
Begotten was Hawai‘i, an island  
Hanau ‘o Maui, he moku  
Begotten was Maui, an island

**One**: Ho‘i hou ‘o Wakea noho ia  
Wakea made a new departure  
Ho‘ohokukalani  
And lived with Ho‘ohokukalani

**All**: Hanau ‘o Moloka‘i, he moku  
Begotten was Molokai, an island  
Hanau ‘o Lana‘i, ka‘ula, he moku  
Begotten was Lana‘i, an island

**One**: Liliopu punalua ‘o Papa ia  
The womb of Papa became jealous  
Ho‘ohokukalani  
as its partnership with  
Ho‘ohokukalani  
Papa returned and lived with Wakea

**All**: Hanau ‘o O‘ahu, he moku  
Begotten was O‘ahu, an island  
Hanau ‘o Kaua‘i, he moku  
Begotten was Kaua‘i, an island  
Hanau ‘o Ni‘ihau, he moku  
Begotten was Ni‘ihau, an island  
He ‘ula a‘o Kaho‘olawe.  
A red rock was Kaho‘olawe.
CONNECTION TO EVERYTHING AROUND US

“A sense of being one with all of creation, being one with the ocean, being one with the heavens…there’s a feeling of completeness.”
Anona Napoleon - SURFING FOR LIFE

For Hawaiians, there is a primal connection to the universe, to nature, to the land and the sea, a connection that comes from a deep spiritual, as well as genealogical, belief system. Nature is where it all begins for the Hawaiians. In fact, they call themselves keiki o ka ‘āina—“children of the land.”

The ‘āina (land) is not just soil, sand or dirt. The ‘āina is a heart issue for Hawaiians. The very word ‘āina brings forth deep emotion evolved from ancestral times when people lived in nature as an integral part of it. Mankind and nature were considered siblings born to the same parents at the beginning of time.

The word ‘āina literally means “that which feeds,” and maka ‘āinana, a term for the common class of people, means "eyes of the land." Thus, nature feeds humans and humans watch over nature in return. The land gave the ancients everything they needed – not just food, but clothing, housing, weapons, tools, musical instruments, canoes – everything they crafted, wore and ate came from plants, animals or fish. Dependent on nature, they revered and respected it. Success depended on living in harmony with nature.
Hawaiians believe they have a genealogical connection as well as a spiritual connection to Mother Nature and all that she provides.

For Hawaiians, the stars in the sky are the Mother, the sky is the Father, the Earth is the Grandmother, the Kalo (Taro) plant is the elder brother, and the Islands are the Aunties and Uncles. Hawaiians can trace their genealogy back to all things… the earth, sky, stars, and the Kalo. Thus, the connection between ‘ohana (family) and the ‘āīna (land) is very strong.

A GENEALOGICAL CONNECTION

Depending on the canoe in which a Hawaiian’s ‘ohana arrived in Hawai‘i, his or her genealogical belief system begins with Papahanaumoku (Earth Mother) and Wakea (Sky Father). With the union of Papa and Wakea comes the birth of the islands in the Hawaiian chain...beginning with Hawai‘i and Maui. The third born was Ho'ohokukalani (to make stars in the sky). Soon after, Wakea and his daughter Ho'ohokukalani unite to create the islands of... O'ahu and Lana‘i. Their union also creates Haloa Naka, a fetus born without life that is buried. In the place where the fetus is buried sprouts the first Kalo plant. Soon after, Haloa is born a strong and healthy man and becomes the first Hawaiian person. Papa and Wakea then re-unite and create the last of the Hawaiian island chain...Lana‘i, Moloka‘i, Kaho'olawe and Ni‘ihau.

“Na ali‘i o ke kuamo‘o o Haloa”

Chiefs of the lineage of Haloa... - Mary Kawena Puku‘i

This 'Olelo No'eau is said of high chiefs whose lineage goes back to ancient times.

This genealogy of Papa and Wakea is critical in forming the relationship between Hawaiians and the ‘āīna around them. There is a saying in Hawaiian, “I pa‘a i ke kalo ‘a‘ole ‘oe e puka” or “If it had ended with the Kalo you would not be here.” The Kalo plant plays a vital part in the genealogy of the Hawaiian people as their most important crop and main sustenance. The term ‘ohana comes from the Kalo plant itself. When one talks about the parts of the Kalo plant, the corm of the Kalo is called the “Oha,” the part of the plant used to feed one’s ‘ohana. Thus, Hawaiians are linked on several levels to the world around them – the sky, the earth, the plants and the sea.

From this emotional and spiritual connection to nature, to all that's around them, Hawaiians invented the term malama – “to take care of.” To malama the ‘āīna or kai (sea), to take care of the land and the sea, to protect and conserve the environment, is directly linked to protecting and conserving the ‘ohana and all people of good will.
The Story of Haloa

Similarities

Sense of self, family, & place