


**Na Keiki o Ka 'Aina Summer Adventure Camps:
Teaching and Inspiring the Next Generation of Scientists on Kaua'i**
Kimberley Mayfield, Keiki Camp Coordinator
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Being surrounded by a diverse crowd of professors, graduate students, undergraduates, high school students, and other researchers from every walk of life in one giant building for a whole week was quite an exhilarating experience. Listening to both research and outreach talks and imagining ways to bridge the gap between the two was certainly my favorite part of the conference. During the presentation of my outreach poster, I felt like I made a lot of valuable connections with others in STEM outreach positions, and the conference motivated me to continue improving STEM outreach efforts on Kauai because of the impact they obviously have in the long run on students' academic success. In my opinion, the youth symposium was the best example of a session that bridged that gap effectively by engaging the youth in science by giving them ownership of scientific question, methodology, and project. I hope to see more youth sessions in the future and look forward to the Ocean Sciences Meeting in 2016.

Aloha,
Kimberley K. Mayfield

 <p>The students learned about food webs from microbes → fish (then they ate the fish)</p>	<h3>Discovery Camp</h3> <p>Where were these camps? Lawa'i, Kaua'i, Hawai'i, USA at the National Tropical Botanical Gardens</p> <p>When were they? June and July, 2010 (1 week/camp)</p> <p>Who participated? 6 – 9yo Kaua'i students (Discovery Camp) 7 – 10yo Kaua'i students (Survivor Camp)</p> <p>What does <i>Na Keiki O Ka 'Aina</i> mean? In Hawaiian, it means 'the children of the land.'</p> <p>Goal of the camps? To provide affordable, fun, and educational summer activities to local Kaua'i students, who are otherwise often underrepresented in STEM fields in a culturally significant atmosphere.</p>	 <p>What does a "watershed" mean to you?</p>
<p>How were the camps made affordable?</p> <p>With grants from C-MORE and the Goodale Family Fund supporting the bulk of the camps' supplies and operational costs, these camps were available to students for only \$50/week. Additionally, fee waivers were available to families that claimed financial need.</p>		
<p align="center">  Na Keiki O Ka 'Aina Summer Adventure Camps: Teaching and Inspiring the Next Generation of Scientists on Kaua'i - K. K. Mayfield -  </p>		
 <p>Live off the land for a week? No problem!</p>	<h3>Survivor Camp</h3> <p>What did the students learn?</p> <p>Discovery Camp: Ocean food webs How pollutants travel from the land to sea What microbes are, where they live, and what they eat Importance of native vegetation to coastal water quality</p> <p>Survivor Camp: Nutrient cycling How to live off the land Cultural significance of water in Hawai'i Primary production (what is it and why is it important?) Relationship between traditional practices and water quality</p> <p>How were students recruited? NTBG website Presentations at local elementary schools Most importantly... the coconut wireless (aka: word-of-mouth)</p>	<h3>Going "Green"</h3>  <p>Above: Students sip on daily coconut ales in waterproof notebooks</p> <p>Left: Who needs a plate when you can wear coconut friends?</p> <p>Bottom: We want to be part of the solution ocean pollution – no more plastic bottles!</p>
<p>Acknowledgements</p> <p>We would like to thank the Center for Microbial Oceanography Research and Education (C-MORE) and the Goodale Family Fund for financially supporting the 2010 Keiki O Ka 'Aina summer adventure camps.</p>		
<p align="center">*To understand a day in the life of a "Keiki Camper," please take a flier</p>		