GARDEN-BASED LEARNING

The ‘ĀINA In Schools Garden-Based Learning component reconnects students to the natural world through the joys of gardening. There are eight ‘ĀINA In Schools garden lessons for grades K, 1, and 5, and six lessons for grade 4. Teachers and volunteers lead the garden lessons and oversee garden clubs.

Grade Level Focus: Grades K, 1, 4, and 5 participate in ‘ĀINA In Schools garden lessons; lessons incorporate academic standards and can be easily adapted for use in other grades. Garden clubs are open to students from all grade levels.

Educational Offerings

- **KHF staff train volunteer docents to deliver garden lessons at Participating ‘ĀINA Schools and provide all necessary funding for food samples, and lesson supply kits.**
- **Kindergarten** lessons focus on life cycles and habitats in the Butterfly Garden and plant parts in The Tops & Bottoms Garden.

1. **1st Grade** lessons include measuring fast growing plants in the Sunflower House and Bean Teepee Gardens and observing how companion plants and garden creatures work together in The Good Buddy Garden.
2. **4th Grade** lessons take students back to their roots by growing traditional Hawaiian foods including kalo and ʻuala.
3. **5th Grade** lessons have students conduct experiments in the Scientific Garden and practice Native American traditions in the Three Sisters Garden.
4. Schools are encouraged to offer weekly garden clubs where students from all grade levels tend the gardens at lunch, recess or after school. Families and community members contribute to preparing and maintaining the garden beds at garden parties, held three times a year at each school.

Getting Involved & Learning More

- Educators are welcome to attend the “School Garden Basics” workshops presented by KHF and the Oʻahu Master Gardeners.
- KHF offers ‘ĀINA In Schools garden curricula trainings four times per year.
- Lessons and resources will be available for download on the Kōkua Hawai‘i Foundation website by registered users.
- Any Hawai‘i school may apply for a Kōkua Hawai‘i Foundation Mini-Grant to fund supplies for school gardens.
- To support ‘ĀINA In Schools, contact volunteer@kokuahawaiifoundation.org.
- Subscribe to KHF and ‘ĀINA In Schools e-newsletters for the latest information.