Backyard Scavenger Hunt

Guess what plant is in the picture. Search your yard to see if you can find any of these plants!

Banana - mai`a  taro - kalo  papaya  milo  mango  ti leaf - kī

How many did you find? These are all plants growing in Kumu Parlin’s yard. How are your plants similar or different to Kumu Parlin’s? Do you live up ma uka (toward the mountains) in Ocean View or in the kula (more flat areas) in Nāʻālehu, Waiʻōhinu, Mark Twain or Discovery Harbour? Each of our places are different. Some places have lots of rain. Some places do not. In each place, we can find different kinds of plants. One plant that is growing all over Ocean View and Volcano is the ‘AʻALIʻI. Do you have it in your yard?

Right now, ʻaʻaliʻi are just starting to grow seed pods again, so you will have to look closely at its leaves to identify it.

ʻAʻaliʻi seed pods have wings that help them to fly, or move on the wind to a new place to grow.

ʻAʻaliʻi grows out of the rock walls along the highway between Nāʻālehu and Ocean View.

ʻAʻaliʻi leaves are long and narrow with a pointy tip.
Create Your Own Back Yard Scavenger Hunt!

One way to classify (sort) plants is by their leaves. **Choose any plant in your yard.** Grass is okay, if you don’t have any other plants. Kilo, or look closely, at its leaves. Ask an adult if it is okay to pick a leaf. In our example we will use an ‘a‘ali‘i leaf.

Choose a plant. → Pick a leaf. → Put leaf with bumpy side up in your notebook → Cover the leaf with the page before it. → Hold the leaf in place. Use a pencil or crayon to make a leaf rubbing.

Measure your leaf with a ruler. Write how long it is in your notebook or use your finger.

Add more details, or clues, to your plant rubbing.

- What does it look like?
- What colors does it have?
- Does it have any seeds?
- Does it have any fruit?
- Does it have a lot of leaves or just a few?

Show your clues and drawing to someone in your family! See if they can find the plant you described using your clues!

Use your leaf to make an art piece on a new page in your notebook. There is no right or wrong!

Make any design you want. Share your art piece with your family. Challenge your family to create an art piece using leaves in your yard, too!

‘Ōlelo No‘eau - Wise Saying

He ‘a‘ali‘i kū makani mai au; ‘A‘ohe makani nane e kula‘i. I am a wind-resisting ‘a‘ali‘i; No gale can push me over. I can hold my own in the face of difficulties. This is said of the people of Ka‘ū! Be resilient like the ‘a‘ali‘i and don’t give up!

Kamehameha Schools
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