

# Family “Tree” Leaf Mobile

(Plants In My Yard Series)

O- ‘Ohana goal (Why do the activity?) *Family Goal*

There is a reason why many refer to their mo’okuauhau (genealogy) as their Family Tree. Our families are large and broad, extending and growing with each passing year. And just like the branches of a tree, there are many leaves that continue to add to its beauty and change throughout the tree’s life. This activity encourages the exploration and definition of ‘ohana (family) through connections to our ‘āina by way of the trees & plants that surround us everyday. Come, let’s honor our family tree through connections to our ‘āina!

“I ulu no ka lālā i ke kumu.”

*The branches grow because of the trunk.*

Without our ancestors (family) we would not be here.

‘Ōlelo No’eau 1261



H- Ha‘awina (Let’s do the activity) *Lesson, Assignment, Task*

## Materials Needed:

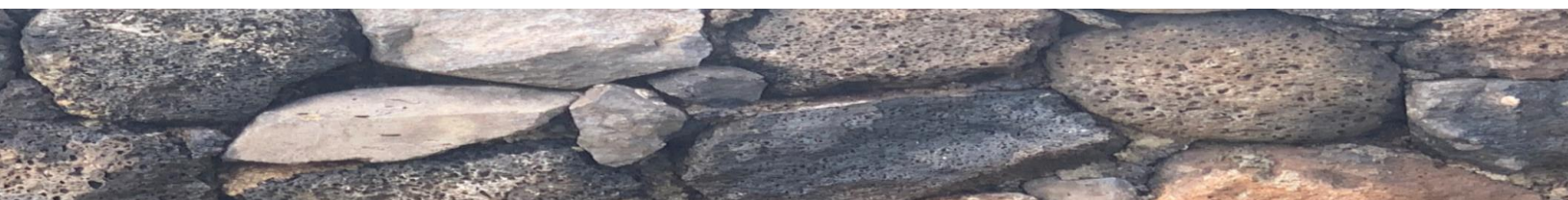
- Leaves
- Blank paper
- Crayons (wrapper removed)
- Scissors



- Yarn or string
- Glue
- A hanger or long stick
- Optional: Hole puncher

## Process:

1. Have a discussion regarding those individuals that you include in your ‘ohana (family). You may want to start by thinking about who you live with, who you know & see everyday, those you call when you need care & support, your parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, grandparents...



2. Make a list and start with your most immediate family members for this project. Write their names & who they are on your list. (Mom, Dad, Brother, Sister...)
3. Once you have decided on your immediate family members that you want to include in this mobile, take a walk with your family around your yard and pick a leaf for each individual you have chosen.



4. With your family and leaves, use a flat hard surface to create a rubbing of each leaf with the crayons & plain paper. Write the name of each family member under their leaf and cut out each leaf with name attached. (For tips on making a leaf rubbings see OHANA Resource: Leaf Rubbings for directions, tips, & tricks.)

5. Cut a piece of string for each leaf and attach it to the back of the leaf. Attach the other end of the string to your hanger or stick.



6. Find a place to hang this in your home or window and share with your family the next chance you get.

### Tips:

- \* You can make your list of family members as long or as short as you want...you can add on later and make this project even bigger.
- \* You can ask each person to pick their own leaf for the rubbing OR You can even pick a leaf from a plant that reminds you of that particular family member.
- \* You can use ribbon instead of string, too. Get creative!
- \* Use wax paper for your rubbings, that way when you hang it in the window light can shine through them.
- \* Decorate your hanger/stick with your family name, additional bling or even flowers.

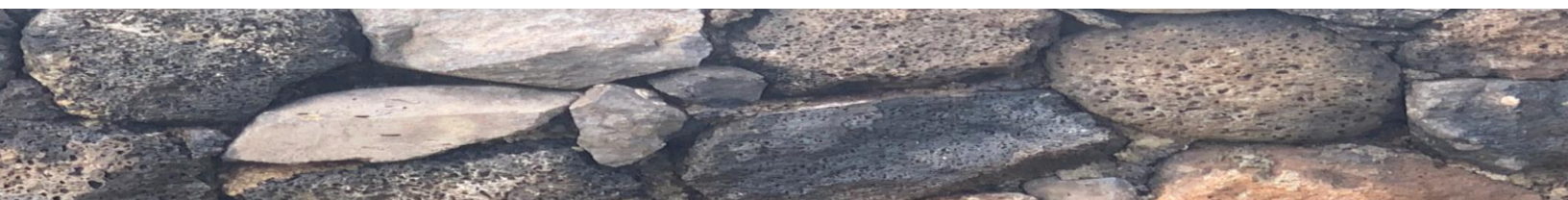
**A**-Alaka'i (What did you learn? What can you teach?) To Lead, Guide, Direct

### Reflective Question(s):

Who did you consider family? Describe what makes them 'OHANA (FAMILY) to you? Were there people or animals that you included? Why or why not?

### Extension Activities:

- Consider adding a few more family members to your mobile throughout the year or gather and do this activity together as a family on a special day each year, adding to it each time.



- You can take it up a notch and add pictures of each family member and mount it on the back of each leaf rubbing. Using cardstock or fancy paper in between or as a backing can make it more embellished and strengthen the leaf representing each family member.
- Under the name for each family member you can write who they are (family member title) in Hawaiian. (i.e. Mother-Makuahine; Father-Makua Kāne; Son-Keiki Kāne; Daughter-Kaikamahine) Or use the titles from your own native language that you use at home.

