Many moʻolelo (stories) share how our ancestors utilized the wind in many creative and practical ways. In Hawaiʻi, these practices included chiefly competition, fishing, meteorology, navigation and simply having fun.

Kite creation in Hawaiʻi and across Polynesia is credited to the demi-god Maui. According to legend, the kite was a tool that he mastered. This tool brought him much joy and helped to hone his skills of observation and innovation, which he used to accomplish his many feats. Maui is said to have used kites attached to the sails of his waʻa (canoe) to speed his way amongst the islands.

Hoʻolele lupe (kite making) was also a creative way in which our kupuna used spare materials they had around the house to create tools for fishing. With this innovation, deep and inaccessible waters could be reached from a protected location on shore high atop a sea-cliff.

By having keiki use things in their surroundings in new and different ways, they are building their creativity, problem-solving skills, and being innovative.

Remember making your own toys using stuff around the house or yard? Or changing/creating new recipes with ingredients you already have? You may not realize it, but you’re into innovation – “introducing new things or methods.” Let’s start innovating!
Innovative Ideas

1. Collect things in the yard (or in your house/garage) that you can safely build, do arts and crafts as a family.
2. Brainstorm ideas as to what you might be able to create and what other materials you might need for your creation, preferably things you have around the house (e.g. glue, scissors, tape, etc.)
3. Start creating!

Making a **hoʻolele lupe (kite)** is a fun, innovative activity that your ʻohana can do using materials you probably already have at home. When innovating as an ʻohana, you also have an opportunity to work together and enhance communication skills.

**Extension activities:**

- Practice following directions with the included instructions from “Let’s Go Fly A Kite” for a Bumblebee Kite or Newspaper Kite.
- When making each kite observe the differences in the kites.
- How do you think each kite will fly differently?
- Before flying the kites make a hypothesis an educated guess of which kite will fly the best and why.

**Resources:**

Instructions from the handout “Let’s Go Fly A Kite”:

**The Newspaper Kite**

**Materials:** This kite has no rigid sticks used in its construction, instead you use rolled up newspaper, so if you have an old newspaper, a roll of sellotape and some scissors you have everything you need!

1. Take 2 double pages of a Tabloid newspaper then tape them together.

2. Next measure 180 mm in from each corner and draw a line to join the points together.

3. Cut along this line to give you the outside shape of the kite. Reinforce the edges with sellotape.

4. Roll some newspaper into a narrow tube shape. You will need 2 tubes.

5. Stick the tubes to the kite as shown in the photograph above.

6. Stick some string to the outer corners of the kite. That’s it!
Instructions from the handout “Let’s Go Fly A Kite”:

**The Bumble Bee**

You will need for each kite:
- Sheet of paper (you can use recycled newspaper, tabloid size are the best);
- Sewing thread.

You will need for each group:
- Stapler
- Hole punch.

**Now let’s begin...**

1. Fold the sheet of paper in half...
2. Mark two points, A and B on the folded edge of the paper. Point "A" should be 2.5 inches from the end, and point "B", 3.5 inches.
3. Fold the top corners of the page to point A and staple them in place. Do not crease the paper. Just bend it back.
4. Punch a hole at point B and attach your flying thread.
5. That's all!!