Sea Turtles
No Nā Honu Kai
A coloring book in English and Hawaiian

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January 2015
Fifth Edition
Produced by the
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
Pacific Islands Region
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The Center for Marine Conservation
No Nā Honu Kai (Sea Turtles)

Sea Turtles figure prominently in native Hawaiian life. They are featured in mythology, petroglyphs, and as aumakua (personal family gods and guardians.) Turtles are reptiles, the same as lizards, geckos and snakes. Like all reptiles, turtles have scaly, dry skin but unlike their crocodile and snake relatives, turtles have no teeth. Turtles have a shell, called a carapace, that protects them from their enemies. Many turtles can pull their bodies into the shell making it impossible for predators to harm them. Most turtles spend their lives on or near the land or in fresh water. There is one group of turtles, however, that spends almost all of its life in the ocean: the sea turtle. The sea turtle, unlike most other turtles, cannot pull its head and flippers into its shell and its legs have changed to become more like a fish’s fins. You can learn more about our Hawaiian sea turtles by reading this book and coloring the pictures. Have fun!

No nā Honu Kai

Pili nā honu kai i ke ola o nā kānaka maoli o Hawai‘i. Ke ola nei lākou ma loko o nā moʻolelo, nā kiʻi pōhaku a ma ka ‘ano he ‘aumakua. He moʻo nō ka honu e like me nā moʻo like ‘ole a me nā hesa. E like me nā moʻo like ‘ole, he ʻili luehu ko ka honu akā, okoʻa ka honu mai ka hesa a me ke kelekolike ma muli o nele ʻana o ka niho o ka honu. He pūpū ko ka honu, nona ka inoa uma, e palekane pono i kona maua ʻenemi. He nui nā ʻano honu ke komo iho i loko o ko lākou uma, ʻaʻole hiki i kona mau ʻenemi ke hanaʻino iā ia. He nui nā honu e ola ma ka ʻāina a ʻiʻole ma loko o ka wai. Akā, noho hoʻokahi o nā ʻano honu ma loko o kai, ʻo ia hoʻi ka honu kai. No ka honu kai, ʻaʻole hiki ia ia ke peʻe pono i kona poʻo a me kona mau hui i loko o kona uma. Ua hoʻoalli ʻia kona mau wāwae ma ke ʻano he mau hui. Hiki ia ʻoe ke aʻo aku e pili ana i nā honu kai ma ka heluhelu ʻana mai i kēia puke, a me mai ka hoʻokala ʻana i nā kiʻi. E hoʻonānea mai!
No Nā Honu Kai (Sea Turtles)
Sea turtles have been around for 150 million years. Their ancestors were giant land turtles that entered the sea ages ago when the first dinosaurs lived. The first sea turtles didn’t look like those of today. It took millions of years for sea turtles to evolve, for legs to become flippers and for big bodies to flatten into streamlined shapes. The dinosaurs and the giant land turtles are gone forever; we can see only their fossil bones in museums. But somehow, sea turtles have lived on. Seven different kinds still swim in warm and temperate oceans around the world. They spend their lives in the water except for the short times the females come onto land to nest and lay their eggs. However, in Hawai‘i, at certain undisturbed locations, sometimes sea turtles crawl up to sleep or “bask” along the shoreline. The sea turtles share the ocean with fish, whales, other sea creatures and with you and me.

No Nā Honu Kai
Noho nā honu ma ka honua no nā makahiki he ho‘okahi haneli kanalima miliona. ‘O ko lākou mau ‘iēwe he mau honu noho ma ka ‘āina i komo i ke kai i ka manawa e ola ai i nā nalala. ‘O ka mua o nā honu, ‘a‘ole like ka helehelena me nā honu o kēia wā. Na ka miliona o nā makahiki i ho‘ololi ‘ia kona mau wāwae i nā hui a me ka ho‘ololi ‘ana o kona kino. Ua pau loa ke ola o nā honu ‘āina numui a me nā nalala, ‘ike wale ‘ia kona mau iwi ma nā hale hō‘ikeike. Akā na‘e, e ola mau nā honu. Mau nō ka ‘au‘au ‘ana o ‘ehiku ‘ano honu kai i loko o ke kai i puni i ka honua. Noho lākou i kona ola ho‘oko‘a ma loko o ke kai, koe aku ka ho‘opae ‘ana o nā honu kai wahine no ka ho‘opūnana a me ka ho‘ohuahua i nā hua. Aka na‘e, ma Hawai‘i nei, hiki ke ‘ike nā honu ma nā kahakai kānaka‘ole ke hiamoe ‘ana. Māhele nā honu kai i ke kai me nā ‘a nā koholā me ka po‘e.
No Ka Honu (The Green Turtle)  
*(Chelonia mydas)*  
Polynesian and other Pacific Islanders hunted turtles, but because there were strict traditional rules that helped protect these special animals, and fewer people in this part of the world, turtles remained plentiful. When western explorers began traveling to America and the Pacific, there were millions of sea turtles in the seas. Traders, settlers and pirates who followed the first European explorers found that one kind of sea turtle had especially tasty meat. This turtle is brown all over, grows to about three feet in length and often weighs some 400 pounds. The turtle or *honu* eats algae or *limu* near the shore. Sailors could easily capture the gentle animal. They could turn the turtle over onto its back so it was helpless, tie its flippers, and keep it aboard their ships to slaughter when they needed fresh meat. The fat inside this turtle's body was green from the vegetation it ate, so it was named the green turtle. It is the only sea turtle that lives only on plants. Today, hundreds of years later, green turtles are still hunted and taken in some areas of the Pacific. Fortunately, in Hawai'i, all sea turtles are now protected by state and federal laws.

No Ka Honu (ʻŌmaʻomaʻo)  
Ua hāhāi nā poʻe Polineika a me na kupa o nā mokupuni Pākipika ʻē a’e, akā, ma muni o nā kapu i mālama i nā honu kai, a me ka nele o ka nui ʻino o ka poʻe ma loko o kēia māhele o ka honua, he nui nā honu kai i koe. I ka manawa a nā poʻe haole i huakaʻi mua i ʻAmelika a ma ka Pākipika he mau miliona honu kai i loko o ke kai. Ua loaʻa hoʻokahi honu me ka iʻo ono loa i nā mea kālepa, nā mea noho, a me nā mea pōwā o ke kai i hahai i ka mua o nā poʻe ʻimi loa o ʻEulopa. He makuʻe ka waihoʻoluʻu o kēia honu, a ulu ia a hiki i nā kapuaʻi ʻekolu, a he ʻehā haneli kona kaumaha. ʻAi ka honu i ka limu ma kahi kokoke i ke kapakai. He mea hikiwale ka hopu ʻia ʻana o ka honu wale e nā poʻe kelamoku. Hiki lākou ke huli i ka honu ma kona kua, a nākiʻi i kona mau hui a mālama ia ma ka moku a hiki i ka nele o ka iʻo. He ʻōmaʻomaʻo ka momona i loko o ko ka honu kino ma muli o ka limu i ʻai ʻai, no la ila kapa ʻia o honu ʻōmaʻomaʻo. ʻO ia ka honu kai wale nō i ʻai i ka limu. I kēia lā, he mau haneli mahahiki i hala aku, mau nō ka hahai ʻana o ka honu ʻōmaʻomaʻo ma kekāhi mau māhele o ka Pākipika. He pōmaikaʻi ia, ma Hawaiʻi nei, ke palekana ʻia nei nā honu kai e nā kānāwai o ka mokuʻaina a me nā kānāwai o ke aupuni pekelala.
Honu'ea (The Hawksbill)  
(Eretmochelys imbricata)  
The hawksbill is one of the most beautiful sea turtles. Its hard, top shell, called the carapace, is made up of dark brown or yellow and brown scales. These scales overlap like shingles on a roof. The hawksbill's bottom shell is called the plastron. It is yellow. The skin of its head and flippers has brown patches rimmed in yellow. The hawksbill gets its name from its beak because the top of it hooks down much like the bill of a hawk. This sea turtle measures a little less than three feet long and weighs up to two hundred pounds. Hawksbills and other sea turtles are reptiles like turtles that live on land. They have lungs and breathe air. Even though sea turtles can hold their breath for many minutes they must come up to breathe. Hawksbills live near coral reefs and rocky shorelines where they find sponges, worms, fish, snails and crabs to eat. Small populations of the rare honu'ea are found around the islands of Moloka'i, Maui and Hawai'i.

No Ka Honu 'Ea  
'O ka honu 'ea, 'oi aku ka 'ui o nā honu kai like'ole. 'O kona una ma luna, e kapa 'ia he una kua, e pa'a 'ia 'o ia i nā unahi makue i 'ole melemele. Pale nā unahi kekāhi i kekāhi i like me nā pili lā'au o ke kaupoko o ka hale. E kapa 'ia ko ka honu 'ea una ma lalo he una alo. He melemele ia. Loa'a i kēia honu i kekāhi kiko māku'e ma kona po'o a me ma kona mau hui a he lihi melemele. Kohulike ka nuku o kēia honu me ka nuku o ka 'io. He 'ekolu kapua'i kona lō'ihi a he 'elua haneli paona kona kaumaha. Like nō ka honu 'ea a me nā honu kai 'ē a'e i nā mo'o e like me nā honu e ola ai ma ka honua. He mau akemāmā ko lākou a hanu i ke 'ea. 'Oiai lākou aho loa i ka lu'u, pono lākou e pi'i i ka 'ili kai no ka hanu. Noho nā honu 'ea ma kahi kokoke i nā kohola a me ka 'aekai, kahi i lo'a nā hu'akai, nā ko'e kai, ka 'ia, nā pūpū kai a me nā pāpā'i no ka 'ai. Kaka'i'kāhi ka heluna o ka honu 'ea a puni i nā mokupuni o Moloka'i, Maui a me Hawai'i.
The Loggerhead
(Caretta caretta)
The loggerhead turtle is slightly smaller than the green. A loggerhead may weigh between 300 and 400 pounds. It eats crabs, mollusks and other sea animals. The loggerhead hunts near coral reefs and rocks. You can recognize it by its large, wide head and broad, short neck. The loggerhead, like other sea turtles, cannot pull its head into its shell like land turtles. Its shell is like a suit of armor, but its head and flippers are unprotected. Certain sharks and killer whales may attack these parts, but the loggerhead is big and fast and has few natural enemies. Color its carapace and skin reddish-brown and the plastron yellow. The loggerhead is a rare visitor to Hawaiian waters but is common in southern Japan and Australia.

No ka Loggerhead
He līlī iki ke kino o ka honu loggerhead mai ka honu ʻōmaʻomaʻo. Ma waena o ʻekolu haneli a me ʻehā haneli ko ka loggerhead kaumaha. ʻAi ʻo ia i nā pāpaʻi a me kekāhi mau ia ʻē aʻe. Hahai ka honu loggerhead ma kahi kokoke i nā kohola a me nā pōhaku. Hiki ia ʻoe ke hoʻokūʻike ʻia ʻo ia e kona poʻo nунui a me kona ʻaʻi pōkole. ʻO ka honu loggerhead, e like ma nā honu kai ʻē aʻe, ʻaʻole hiki ia ia ke komo i kona poʻo ma loko o kona una e like me nā honu noho ma ka ʻāina.
Kohulike kona una i ka pale kila, akā ʻaʻole palekana kona poʻo a me kona mau hui. ʻAkiʻaki kekāhi mau manō a me kekāhi mau ʻenemi ʻē aʻe i keia mau ʻāpana, akā ʻāwiwi a nunui ʻo ia, a ʻaʻole nui kona mau ʻenemi. Kāpala i kona una a me kona ʻili me ka waihoʻolua palaʻa a he melemele ka waihoʻolua o kona una lalo. He mea hoʻokipa kakaʻikāhi ʻo ia i ke kai ma Hawaiʻi nei, akā he kamaʻaina ʻo ia i ke kai o Iāpana a me ʻAukekulelia.
The Leatherback
(*Dermochelys coriacea*)
The leatherback (or trunkback) is the largest sea
turtle living today. It may grow to be eight feet long
and weigh 2000 pounds. Its overall color is black. The
leatherback is the only sea turtle that does not have a
hard top shell. It is protected instead by thick skin
with seven long ridges along its back. Its leathery
back gives the turtle its name. The leatherback is a
great wanderer. Its huge front flippers take it thou-
sands of miles. The leatherback's favorite food is a
jellyfish most sea animals avoid—the poisonous
Portuguese man-of-war. Like all sea turtles, the
leatherback has no teeth and uses its strong, sharp
beak to catch food. The leatherback can be found in
the deep waters around the Hawaiian Islands.

No ka Leatherback
He mo'o nunui ka honu *leatherback* e ola ai i keia la.
Hiki ia ia ke ulu a hiki i na kapua'i he 'ewalu a he
'elua kaukani paona kona kaumaha. He 'ele'ele kona
waiho'olu'u. 'O ka honu *leatherback* ka honu wale nō
me ia una palupalu. Palekana 'ia 'o ia e kona 'ili
mānoanoa me 'ehiku pu'tu ma kona kua. Mai kona
'ili mānoanoa i loa'a ai kona inoa. He mea 'auana
wale ka honu *leatherback*. Hiki ia ia ke 'aukai i na
mile kaukani me kona mau hui nunui. 'O kona 'ai
puanaele 'o ia nō kekahi pololia a nā ia 'e a'e i hō'aloi,
'o ia ho'i, ka Pa'i malau. E like me nā honu kai like
'ole, 'a'ohe nīho ko ka honu *leatherback*, no laila, hopu
'o ia i kāna mea 'ai me kona nuku. Loa'a no ka honu
*leatherback* ma ke kai hohonu o ka pae'ai na Hawai'i.
The *Hono* (Green Turtle) Nesting
A female green turtle arrived offshore at her nesting beach alone at night. She mated earlier with a male green turtle nearby in the water. It is time for her to lay her eggs. She might nest three or more times during a single nesting season. Though she is fast and well suited to the water, she is slow and in danger on land. The female dragged herself out of the sea and onto the beach up beyond the reach of high tide. She dug a pit for her body with her flippers. She nested in it and used her back flippers, like shovels, to scoop out a bottle-shaped hole. Now she drops about one-hundred white, leathery eggs that look like Ping-Pong balls into this hole. When she finishes, she will cover the nest with sand and slowly go back to the sea, leaving a trail behind her. In the Hawaiian Islands, most green turtles migrate to nest at remote French Frigate Shoals, 400 miles northwest of Kaua‘i. This special site is a National Wildlife Refuge where many seabirds and monk seals have their young.

**Ka Hoʻopūnana o ka Honu ‘Ōma‘omaʻo**
Ua hōʻea mai kekāhi honu ‘ōma‘omaʻo wahine hoʻokahi ma kahakai i kona wahi hoʻopūnana. Ua hoʻomau keiki iho nei ‘o ia me kekāhi honu ‘ōma‘omaʻo kāne ma kai kokoke. Hiki paha ia ia ke hoʻopūnana i nā manawa he ‘ekolu a ‘o i aku i loko o ke kau hoʻopūnana hoʻokahi. Oiai ‘awiwi ‘o ia a ma’a ‘o ia i ke kai, ‘ulōlohi loa ‘o ia a pilikia ‘o ia ma ka ‘āina. Ua kolo ka honu wahine ma kekapakai mauka aku o ka wahi kai nui. Ua ‘elī iho ‘o ia i kekāhi lua no kona kino me kona mau hui. Ua hoʻopūnana ‘o ia i loko o ka lua, a hana ‘o ia i kona mau hui hope, e like me kekāhi mau kopolā, no ka ‘elī i kekāhi lua ma ke ‘ano he ‘ōmole ia. I kēia manawa, hāʻule hua ‘o ia i nā hua keʻokeʻo māua ma kahi o hoʻokahi haneli, kohulike nā hua i nā pōpō kenika pākaukau. I kona hoʻopau ‘ana, uhi ‘o ia i ka pūnana i ke one a hoʻi ‘ulōlohi ma kai, e waiho i kona meheu. Ma hope o kona haʻalele, hiki i nā mea poʻa ke hahai i kona mau meheu a ‘aihue i kona mau hua, a i ‘ole ma Hawaiʻi nei, hiki i kekāhi manakuke pōloli, puaʻa, a i ‘ole he ōlio hae a i ‘ole he pōpoki ke a i nā hua. Ma ka paeʻaina o Hawaiʻi, huakaʻi ‘auamoana i ka nui o nā honu ‘ōma‘omaʻo e hoʻopūnana i nā moku pāpapa ‘o ia hoʻi o French Frigate Shoals, aia aku la he ‘ehā haneli mile ma kāhi ‘akau o Kauaʻi. He puʻu honua kēia o ka National Wildlife Refuge no nā manu kai a me nā ōlio holo i kauuaua.
The Hatchlings
The rays of the sun heat the beach, warming the
turtle’s eggs buried in the sand. The eggs develop in
the nest. They are ready to hatch in about two
months. The hatchlings, or baby turtles, peck at their
shells with a small, sharp point at the front of their
snout—this special part will disappear after hatching.
The hatchlings cut open their leathery shells. All
must hatch at almost the same time, for all must
share the work to escape from the nest. The baby
turtles scrape away at the sand overhead. The sand
falls upon their empty shells, forming a platform that
allows the hatchlings to rise. In a few days, they have
scraped their way to the roof of the nest. Then, at
night, or in the early morning when it’s cool, little
dark heads and flippers wriggle out onto the beach.
Two-inch long hatchlings quickly crawl away to reach
the sea.

Nā Honu Keiki
Mehana nā kukuna o ka lā i ke kahaone, a, mehana
nō ho‘i i nā hua i kanu ‘ia i ke one. Ho‘omōhala ‘ia nā
hua i loko o ka pūnana. Mākaukau lākou i ke kiko i
loko nō paha nā malama ‘elua. Kikokiko nā honu
keiki i ko lākou mau iwi hua me kekāhi nīho hua ma
kona mau ihu, e nalowale ana i kēia nīho ma hope iho
o ka puka ‘ana aku ma ka iwi hua. Hakihaki nā keiki
honu i ko lākou mau iwiw hua. Pono nā honu keiki a
pau loa i kiko ma ka manawa like no a like, no ka
mea, pono ke kōkua o nā honu keiki a pau i ke
ho‘opākele mai ka pūnana. Wa‘u nā honu keiki i ke
one ma luna o lākou. Hā‘ule ke one ma ko lākou mau
iwī hua, e kūkū ‘ana i kekāhi papa i ho‘opi‘i ai nā
honu keiki. Ma loko o kekāhi mau lā, hiki mai
lākou ma ka wēlau o ka pūnana. I ka pō a i ‘ole i ke
kakahia nui, komo aku lākou ma ke kapakai. Kolo
nā honu keiki, he ‘elua ‘iniha ko lākou lō‘ihi, i loko o
ke kai.
Race to the Sea
The hatchlings go towards the sea. The brightness over the water attracts them. They crawl from the nest and begin their race to the sea. Full of life, but defenseless, they race across the beach. Their shells are soft and offer little protection. In some places in the world, lizards, crabs and sea birds chase the tiny turtles and eat them. Many of the hatchlings that make it to the water may be eaten by fish. Only a few of the hatchlings may live to become adults. Where they go to spend their first few years is a mystery. It is one of nature’s great secrets. Green turtles, for example, are not seen again until they are a few years old when they are found feeding near the shore of islands like those in Hawai‘i. They are then as big as a dinner plate.

Ka Heihei i ke Kai
Hele nā honu keiki ma kai. ʻUme ke ʻalohi o ka ʻili kai iā lākou. Kolo aku lākou mai ka pūnana a heihei i ke kai. Piha i ke ola, akā palekana ʻole, heihei lākou ma ke kapakai. ʻAluʻalu ko lākou mau una a ʻaʻohe palekana ma laila. Ma kekāhi mau wahi, hahai a ʻai iho nā moʻo, nā pāpaʻi a me nā manu kai i nā honu keiki. Nui nā honu keiki i komo i ke kai, hiki paha ke ʻai ia e nā iʻa. ʻO kekāhi wale nō e ulu a nui a lilo i nā māku. ʻAʻole i ʻike i hea lākou e noho ai i ko lākou mau makahiki mua. He hoʻokahi ia o nā mea hūnā nui o kēia honua. No nā honu ʻōmaʻomaʻo, ʻaʻole i ʻike ʻia a hiki i ko lākou piha i kekāhi mau makahiki, a hiki ke ʻike iā lākou e ʻai ana ma kahi kokoke i nā mokupuni e like me Hawaiʻi nei. ʻO ko lākou nui, ʻo ia nō ma kahi o kekāhi pā ʻāina ahiahi.
Where Sea Turtles Nest
Sea turtles nest in a wide, warm belt around the world. They all return to the same beaches where they themselves hatched. Each kind of sea turtle has its own special place. For some, only one particular place will do. The Atlantic Ridley nests only on one beach on the northeast coast of Mexico (A). The flat-back turtle lays its eggs only on the coast of northern Australia (B). Hawaiian green turtles may be found nesting at French Frigate Shoals in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, up to 800 miles from their feeding areas around the main islands (C). It is a wonder that sea turtles can remember where they were born and that they can navigate to find these places again.

Kahi e Ho'opunana na Honu Kai
Ho'opūnana nā honu kai i kekāhi wahi mehana i pō'ai i ka honua. Ho'i lākou a pau i ke kahakai a lākou i hānau 'ia ai. Loa'a nā wahi kupono i nā 'ano honu like 'ole. Ho kekāhi ho'okahi wahi kūpono wale nō. Ho'opūnana ka honu Atlantic Ridley ma ho'okahi kahakai wale nō ma ke kapakai hikina 'ākau o Mekiko. Ho'ohuahua ka honu Kualaha i kona mau hua ma ke kapakai ho'okahi ma ke kapakai o ka 'ao'ao 'ākau o 'Aukekulelia. Ho'opūnana nā honu 'ōma'oma'o ma ka French Frigate Shoals o ka Papahānaumokuākea he 'ewalu haneli mile mai nā wahi hānai ma ka pae 'āina nui. He kupiaiana no ko ka honu 'ōma'oma'o ho'omano'a 'ana i kona wahi hānau, a ko lākou ho'okele a hiki aku i kēlā wahi.
Sea Turtles? Or Sea Products?
Sea turtles are disappearing in many areas. And once they are gone, it will be forever. One reason turtles are disappearing is because people use parts of turtles for food or to make different products. The hawksbill is prized for its shell to make tortoiseshell combs, brush handles, eyeglass frames, buttons, hair clips and jewelry. Hawksbill and green turtles are killed so they can be stuffed and hung on walls as decorations. Green turtles are slaughtered for their meat and to make turtle soup. The skin from the neck and flippers of greens and olive ridleys is made into leather for purses and shoes. Fat from turtle bodies is used in soaps and makeup creams. Instead of using other more plentiful resources for these products, the world's remaining sea turtles are killed. In the United States, including Hawai'i, and in some other countries, it is now against the law to kill or harm a sea turtle. If more countries begin to protect sea turtles, they will not disappear.

Nā Honu Kai? A i ‘ole Mea Kai i Hana ‘Ia?
Turtle hunting

Certain people around the world who live near the shore have always hunted sea turtles to help feed their families. A fisherman might spear a sea turtle and take it home to eat. Groups of hunters netted sea turtles when they rose to breathe and brought them back to their villages for food. For years, when there were many sea turtles, such hunting seemed to have little affect on their numbers. But more and more turtles were hunted. Money could be made selling sea turtles. So hunters took hundreds of turtles from the sea and even on the land, when they were nesting. In Hawai‘i, they used to be sold to restaurants, so that tourists could eat turtles. Fewer and fewer sea turtles were left until they were almost gone. Laws now protect sea turtles and forbid trade in turtle products. Turtles are now starting to increase in Hawai‘i due to protection. But not every country has these laws and not everyone obeys them.

No ka Hahai Honu ‘Ana

Mau nō ka hahai honu ‘ana o kekāhi po‘e e noho kokoke i ke kai i pō‘ai i ka honua no ka hānai i nā ‘ohana. Hiki paha kekāhi lawai‘a ke ho‘ō i ka honu kai a lawe aku iā ia i ka hale no ka ai. Ke pī‘i nā honu i ka ‘ili kai no ka ‘ea, hopu nā hui lawai‘a iā lākou a lawe aku nā honu i ko lākou mau kauhale no ka ‘ai. I ka wā he nui ʻino ka honu kai, ‘aʻole i ʻike ʻia ka hōʻemī ʻana o ka nui o ka honu kai. Akā, ua hoʻoulu i ka helu o ka honu i pepehi ʻia. Waiwai nō ka honu kai. No laila, ua pepehi nā mea hānai i nā honu he nui, a pepehi nō hoʻi lākou ma ka ʻāina, i ke kau hoʻopūnana. Ma Hawai‘i nei, ua kūʻai ʻia aku lākou i ka hale ʻaina i wā ma mua. Ua hōʻemī ʻia ka helu o ka honu a hiki i ka lākou nalowale. I keiā manawa, aia no kekāhi mau kānāwai e palekana i nā honu kai a pāpā i ke kālepa o nā mea i hana ʻia me ka honu kai. I keiā manawa, e hoʻonui ana ka honu ma Hawai‘i nei mamuli o ka mālama ʻana. Ma nā ʻāina e aʻe, ʻaʻohe kānāwai mālama honu kai a ʻaʻole nā poʻe a pau e wiwo i nā kānāwai.
Let Our Turtle Family Live!
Our Hawaiian turtles are special. The turtles that come to your island beaches are the children and grandchildren of other turtles who came there to nest. If the turtles are killed, there will be no new turtles to come back to our beaches and live in our coastal waters.

You can help to conserve sea turtles by keeping trash out of the ocean. When sea turtles mistake plastics for food, they can become sick and die. Every year, people of all ages pick up trash on beaches so that the turtles and other special marine life will have a clean and safe ocean. It will take many years for sea turtle numbers to increase to healthy numbers, but it will happen if we try.

‘Ae ka Holomua o ko Kākou ‘Ohana Honu!
Kūikawai ko kākou mau honu. ‘O nā honu e noho ma kou mau kapakai, he mau keiki a he mau mo‘opuna lākou o nā honu i ho‘o pūnana ma laila. Inā pepehi ‘ia a make kēlā mau honu, ‘a‘ole e loa‘a ana nā honu hou e ho‘i ana i ko kākou mau kapakai.

Hiki iā ‘oe ke kōkua i ka holomua ‘ana o ke ola o nā honu kai ma ka honua me ke kiloi ‘ole ‘ana o nā ‘ōpala i loko o ke kai. Ke ‘ai nā honu kai i ka ‘ōpala, loa‘a lākou i ma‘i a make. I ka mahahiki a pau, ‘ahi nā kānaka like ‘ole i ka ‘ōpala ma nā kapakai i mea i mālama nā wahi o nā honu a o nā holoholona likē ole o ke kai. He mau mahahiki paha no ka ho‘omāhuahua ‘ana o ka helu o nā honu kai, akā ina ho‘ā‘o kākou, hiki nō.
Hope For the Sea Turtle

Sea Turtles can be saved in spite of all the dangers they face. If enough people care, if governments help, and if the efforts of conservationists (including children) succeed, sea turtles will live. Conservationists are people who study the problems of endangered animals, or plants, and try to solve them. The Pacific green turtle is the target of one important conservation experiment. In this project, female turtles are tagged with small electronic transmitters (turtle tags) and satellites in space track their movements for the next 3 or 4 months. We can help our Pacific sea turtle populations by stopping the hunting for eggs or adults. It can take more than 20 years for a sea turtle to become an adult and begin laying eggs. If they are allowed to live so that they can grow to become adults, mate and lay eggs for the next generation, there will be more turtles in the future.

Remember, all sea turtles in Hawai‘i are fully protected under state law and under the Federal Endangered Species Act. These laws prohibit harassing, harming, killing or keeping sea turtles in captivity without a permit allowing these activities for research or educational purposes. Divers should be aware that riding or hanging onto turtles, or chasing them, is illegal since it puts these animals under stress.

No ke Ola Mau o ka Honu Kai

Hiki ke mālama nā honu kai ma muli o nā pilikia. Inā e mālama nui ka po‘e, inā e kokua i nā Aupuni, a holomua pono ka hana o ka po‘e mālama, e ola mau ka honu kai. ‘O ka po‘e mālama ‘āina, he mau kānaka i a‘o aku i nā pilikia o nā holoholona ‘ane make loa a i ‘ole nā meakanu, a hōʻa’lākou e loa’ia ka haʻina iā lākou. ‘O ka honu ‘ōma‘oma‘o Pākīpika ka māka o kekāhi e hoʻāo a i. Ma loko o kēia papahana, hoʻo i kekāhi hōʻailona liʻiliʻi i nā honu wahine, he mea hoʻolele kani o ia hoʻi, nā hōʻailona honu, a hahai nō nā ukali lewa lan i ko lākou holo ‘ana no nā malama ʻekolu a i ʻole ʻehā. Hiki iā kākou ke kokua i ka nui o nā honu o ka Pākīpika i ke ku ‘ana i ka hānai i nā hua a me nā mākua. He mau makahiki iwakālua a ʻoi no ka honu e lilo i makua a e hoʻohuahua. Inā noho papa lākou a hiki ko lākou hoʻomau keiki ‘ana a hoʻohuahua i nā hua e ola mau nā honu.

Mai poina, ke palekana ʻia nei nā honu kai a pau e ke kānāwai o ka mokuʻāina a ma lalo o ke kānāwai Pekelala kapa ia ʻo Kānāwai Pekelala Holoholona ʻAne Make Loa. Pāpā nei kēia mau kānāwai i ka hana ʻino ʻana, ka hoʻomake ʻana, a me ka hānai a huhu ʻana me ka nele o ka palapala i ʻae i kēia hana no ka hoʻonaʻaʻua o. Pono nā mea luʻu (lawaiʻa) e maopopo ai, he kūʻē kānāwai ka hopu ʻana a holo ʻana i ka honu, ʻoiaʻi e hoʻohopohopo ʻia ka honu.
Kauila and the Sea Turtles of Punalu‘u*
Hawaiian legend, as recorded by historian Mary Puku‘i, describes a mystical turtle named Kauila that makes her home at Punalu‘u in the magnificent district of Ka‘ū. Kauila is the daughter of two different kinds of supernatural sea turtles that came to Punalu‘u long ago. Kauila was born from a special egg resembling a piece of kauila wood buried by her mother in the warm black sand. Before returning to the sea, Kauila’s parents dug into the earth and created a freshwater spring named “Ka wai hu o Kauila—The rising water of Kauila.”

Kauila was empowered with the ability to change herself from a turtle into human form. During the daytime Kauila would play with the children along the shoreline and keep watch over them. When Kauila wanted to sleep in her home underwater, she transformed herself back into a turtle. The people of Ka‘ū loved Kauila as the guardian of their children and also for her spring that gave them pure drinking water.

No Kauila a me nā Honu Kai o Punalu‘u
O kekāhi mo‘olelo i ho‘opā’a ‘ia e Mary Puku‘i no ka honu kupai’anaha kapa ‘ia o Kauila. ‘O Punalu‘u, ma ka ‘āina hanohano o Ka‘ū ka home no ia o Kauila. He honu kaikamahine ‘o Kauila a ‘elua mau honu kai kupua i pae i kahakai o Punalu‘u i ka wā kahiko. Hānau ‘ia o Kauila mai kekāhi hua kohu like me ka lā‘au kauila. Kanu ‘ia ka honu makua‘hine ka hua i ke one ‘ele‘ele mehana. Mamua o ka ho‘i i ke kai, ua ‘elei k mākua honu i kahi punawai kapa ‘ia o “Ka wai hū o Kauila.”

He mana nui ko Kauila. Hiki iā ia ke lilo i kino kanakai. I ka lā, pa‘ani ‘o Kauila me nā keiki ma ke kahakai a mālama aku iā lākou. Ke ake o Kauila e hiamo‘e ma ka punawai, lilo ‘oia i honu. Aloha ka po‘o o Ka‘ū iā Kauila, no ke kia‘i ‘ana o ka lākou mau keiki a me ka punawai i inu ai.

*Punalu‘u is located on the southern shores of the Big Island of Hawai‘i. The Hawaiian translation of this legend has been provided by Hawaiian historian Daniel Akaka, Jr.
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Pacific Islands Region (PIR) would like to thank the National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa and the Center for Marine Conservation for permission to modify its popular coloring book Sea Turtles for use in Hawai‘i. The drawings were created by Mary Beath; the original text was written by Francine Jacobs. Text and drawings were modified for Hawai‘i by Allen Tom, PIR Regional Director. Hawaiian translation was by Analu Okimoto, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. The English text was edited by George Balazs, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Carol Carey, Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Maui liaison. The Hawaiian text was edited by Daniel Akaka, Jr., Hawaiian historian at the Mauna Lani Bay Hotel. A special mahalo to Nancy Daschbach, PIR Administrative Assistant, for bringing this to Hawai‘i.

Mary Beath has always been interested in both science and art. She received her B.A. degree in zoology from Duke University and later a B.F.A. from the Rhode Island School of Design. She is also a printmaker, using natural forms, rhythms, and colors in her abstract prints.

Francine Jacobs is the author of dozens of books for young readers including Sea Turtles (William Morrow and Co.). A former teacher, many of her books are on the nature-science subjects. Ms. Jacobs grew up in a small, oceanside community on Long Island, NY. The sea and its creatures have always fascinated her. She is an avid conservationist.

The Center for Marine Conservation, now the Ocean Conservancy, was formed in 1972 as a private, non-profit organization to increase public awareness and understanding of the relationship between ourselves and our planet. In response to growing human population and demand for marine resources, the Conservancy has become a leading advocate for the protection of the oceans and their wealth of life. The Conservancy works to maintain biological diversity and the integrity of ocean ecosystems.

The mission of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is to manage marine areas of special national significance to protect their ecological and cultural integrity for current and future generations.

Published by
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Pacific Islands Region
726 S. Kihei Rd.
Kihei, HI 96753
(800) 831-4888
(808) 879-2818
http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/about/pacific.html
Fifth Printing, January 2015