

Healthy, Happy Habitats!

Whether it's a grove of trees, a mountain cave, or the ocean floor, habitats provide living things (including people!) with all they need to survive. Join us for a week of exploring the special places where animals and plants make their homes. Our adventures begin in Makiki Valley where we'll discover the different plants and animals that live in forest, meadow, and freshwater habitats. We'll venture to coastal tide pools in search of the unique animals adapted to living in these rugged habitats. During our wetland explorations, we'll encounter endangered water birds found in Hawai'i and nowhere else on the planet! Each day, we'll play nature games, create habitat crafts, and engage in habitat clean-ups to help keep these natural homes healthy and in balance. Students will even make their own terrariums (mini habitats) to take home – a reminder of how the living and non-living things within a habitat work together to stay in balance.

Schedule:

Day 1 – Healthy, Happy Habitats: The Diverse Habitats of Makiki Valley. We'll catch bugs in the meadow and embark on a forest expedition to gather items for making a miniature Makiki Valley habitat to observe throughout the week!

Day 2 – Captivating, Coastal Habitats: Tide Pool Adventures at Makapu`u. Field trip to Makapu`u to explore tide pools and discover animals that live in Hawai'i's coastal habitats. **Please bring a towel and wear water clothes, sunscreen, and water shoes. Don't be late - **the bus leaves at 8:45am!***

Day 3 – Fun, Freshwater Habitats of Makiki Valley. After a short visit to the nearby freshwater lo`i kalo (taro patch), we will spend the day meandering along Makiki stream in search of aquatic life as we go.

Day 4 – Wonderful, Wetland Habitats: Marsh Explorations at Kaha Park. Field trip to Kaha Park in Kailua to investigate the wetland habitat of Kawainui Marsh, home to native and endangered water birds! **Please wear sunscreen/bug repellent and bring an extra water bottle, hat, and water shoes. Don't be late - **the bus leaves at 8:45am!***

Day 5 – Friendly, Forest Habitats and Microhabitats: All day hike to Pu`u `Ualaka`a. A day spent in the forest hiking to Pu`u `Ualaka`a State Park (Roundtop) and examining microhabitats along the way, including the forest floor and decomposing logs. Back at the Center, we'll build small terrariums to take home and care for! ***Please bring a tall, medium sized container that has a lid for the terrarium craft.**