

‘Ohana Means Family

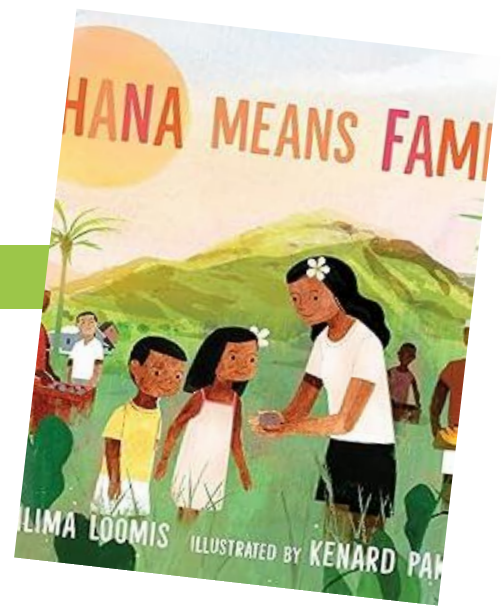
READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Family, Traditions

Book Brief: Join the family, or ohana, as they farm taro for poi to prepare for a traditional luau celebration with a poetic text in the style of *The House That Jack Built*. "This is the land that's never been sold, where work the hands, so wise and old, that reach through the water, clear and cold, into the mud to pick the taro to make the poi for our ohana's luau." NOTE: The backmatter includes a glossary of Hawaiian terms used, as well as an author's note.

Author:
Ilima Loomis

Illustrator:
Kenard Pak



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, "What family traditions do you have with your family? Do they involve food?"

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, think about how the repeating phrases help us learn the meaning of the family traditions in the story."

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What does the word 'ohana mean?
- What are the steps (the repeating phrases) in the story?
- Why do you think these steps of planting and cultivating are so important to the Hawaiian traditions leading to lu'au and 'ohana?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: What traditions does your family have for preparing and gathering over food? Why is this important in all cultures?

Extending Our Thinking: Create a large chart of different cultures/nationalities. List associated foods and special traditions for each. Compare and contrast the variety of foods and traditions for each listed culture or nationality.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.