

About Hawai'i: A Selected List for Younger Children Preschool – Grade 2

NONFICTION

J H 398.2 Ah

Ahuli'i, Gabrielle. **The Pele Stories: Three Hawaiian Legends: A Primer.**

Stories about Pele, the volcano goddess; Hi'iaka, Pele's sister; and Naupaka, one of Hawai'i's best-known love stories.

J H 398.2 Tu

Tune, Suelyn Ching. **How Maui Slowed the Sun.**

The legend of Maui battling with the sun, forever changing the way it moves across the sky.

J H 398.2 Wi

Williams, Julie Stewart. **And the Birds Appeared.**

To the amazement of the island people, Maui, a boy with magical powers, makes birds appear.

J H 508.2 Fe

Feeney, Stephanie. **Sun and Rain: Exploring Seasons in Hawai'i.**

How do we see and feel the seasonal changes in Hawai'i? With lovely photographs, this book describes the subtle changes that occur in the wet and dry seasons.

J H 574.92 Fe

Feeney, Stephanie. **Sand to Sea: Marine Life of Hawai'i.**

Fascinating photographs show the plants and animals you'll find at Hawai'i's beaches, reefs, and tidepools.

J H 591.9969 Ha

Harrington, Daniel. **What am I? A Hawai'i Animal Guessing Game.**

Riddles and clues invite the reader to guess the names of animals that live in Hawai'i.

J H 597 To

Toki, Wilfred. **Know Your Fishes in Hawai'i: A Fun Fish Identification Book for Kids.**

Learn to identify some of Hawai'i's most unique and beautiful fish.

J H 597.928 Li

Liu, Shao Wei. **Honu 5690.**

The improbable story of one turtle's journey around the Hawaiian archipelago from birth on the French Frigate Shoals to motherhood on the island of Maui.

J H 599.795 Ha

Harvey, Jeanne Walker. **Honey Girl: The Hawaiian Monk Seal.**

After Honey Girl is injured by a fish hook, scientists and veterinarians work to save her. This true story will have readers captivated to learn more about this endangered species. Ebook.

J H 797.2106 Ab

Abery, Julie. **Sakamoto's Swim Club: How a Teacher Unlikely Team to Victory.**

The true story of science teacher Soichi Sakamoto, who formed a champion swim club consisting of the Hawaiian and Japanese children of impoverished sugarcane workers in the 1930s.

BIOGRAPHY

J H B Mink Ch

Cham, Stephanie. **Patsy Mink.**

Learn about this great Asian American politician from Pā'ia, Hawai'i and how she became a member of Congress.

J H B Onizuka Ch

Cham, Stephanie. **Ellison Onizuka.**

Read about Ellison Onizuka, an Air Force pilot and later a NASA astronaut, from Kona, Hawai'i.

PICTURE BOOKS

E H Aquino

Aquino, Pua. **My Kalo Has Lau, Big and Green.**

Walks keiki through how each part of a kalo plant is symbolized by the different generations within the Hawaiian 'ohana. Teaches how to grow and care for kalo.

E H Bowman

Bowman, Greg, and Alan Suemori. **Leilani Blessed and Grateful.**

Leilani visits 'Iolani Palace on a school field trip and has a dream that she travels back to "Old Hawai'i," seeing various places in Honolulu with Queen Kapi'olani in her royal carriage.

E H Ching

Ching, Patrick. **Honu and Hina: A Story of Coexistence.**

Young readers will learn about the importance of protecting sea turtles and Hawaiian monk seals through this illustrated story.

E H Feeney

Feeney, Stephanie. **A is for Aloha. 2nd Edition.**

With beautiful photographs, this alphabet book portrays some of the people, places, plants, animals, and activities that make up the everyday life of children in Hawai'i and shows the brilliant color that characterizes the Hawaiian islands.

E H Gale

Gale, Heather. **Ho'onani: Hula Warrior.**

When Ho'onani finds out that there will be a school performance of a traditional kāne chant, she wants to be part of it. But can a girl really lead the all-male troupe? Ho'onani has to try. Based on a true story. Ebook.

E H Greenway (Board Book)

Greenway, Beth. **Hawaiian Ocean Lullaby.**

Journey along Hawai'i's waters and count the creatures that inhabit the soft waves of the tropic ocean.

E H Gruenberg

Gruenberg, Jeremiah Ho'oku'u. **Ki'i and Li'i: A Story from the Stones.**

Combines authentic Hawaiian petroglyphs, original artwork, and Hawaiian words to tell the story of a girl and her younger brother as they journey to their cousin's village.

E H Hutchins

Hutchins, Feng Feng. **Plenty Saimin.**

Ah Kee invites friends and neighbors over to enjoy the saimin his mother is making for his birthday. Everyone brings an ingredient to add, so there is plenty for everyone! Ebook.

E H Loebel-Fried

Loebel-Fried, Caren. **Manu, the Boy Who Loved Birds.**

As he discovers the meaning of his Hawaiian name, a young boy learns about an ancient, now extinct Hawaiian forest bird and the importance of bird conservation. A Hawaiian language edition, "O Manu, ke Keiki Aloha Manu" is also available. Ebook.

E H Loomis

Loomis, Ilima. **'Ohana Means Family.**

In this cumulative rhyme in the style of "The House That Jack Built," a family celebrates Hawai'i and its culture while serving poi at a lu'au. Includes information about kalo and poi. Ebook.

E H Lucas (Board Book)

Lucas, Ka'ohua. **Ma Ko'u Lii'au = At My Lii'au.**

Find out who did what at the lu'au in this bilingual story.

E H Matsumoto

Matsumoto, Lisa. **The Adventures of Gary and Harry: A Tale of Two Turtles.**

Gary, a green sea turtle, and Harry, a hawksbill turtle, learn about the dangers of ocean pollution.

E H Murakami (Board Book)

Murakami, Jon J. **If You Were a Superhero In Hawai'i.**

Spark your child's imagination and find out what your toddler would do in Hawai'i with superpowers!

E H Paikai

Paikai, Tammy. **Too Many Mangoes : A Story About Sharing.**

Kama and Nani pick too many mangos from the giant mango tree, so they load them up in a wagon and share them with friends and neighbors.

E H Rattigan.

Rattigan, Jama Kim. **Dumpling Soup.**

Come celebrate the New Year with this Korean-American family in Hawai'i, and see how a young girl learns to make mandoo, Korean dumplings.

E H Rumford

Rumford, James. **The Island-Below-the-Star.**

Five Polynesian brothers, each with a special talent, sail across the Pacific Ocean to the land that would become Hawai'i.

E H Takayama

Takayama, Sandi. **The Musubi Man: Hawai'i's Gingerbread Man.**

The gingerbread man folktale is given a local twist in this funny story about a man made of rice.

E H Tsong (Board Book)

Tsong, Jing Jing. **Birds in Hawai'i.**

This board book introduces young children to a sampling of the many beautiful birds, both native and introduced, that make the islands a more colorful and joyful place. Also by the author: "Fish in Hawai'i."

E H Uno (Board Book)

Uno, Kat. **Things That Go on Water in Hawai'i.**

Enjoy identifying all kinds of watercraft, big and small, sailing on the deep sea, in smiling bays, down rivers, and past beaches.

E H Villanueva

Villanueva, Leonard. **Kaipo and the Mighty 'Ahi.**

When his three older brothers refuse to take him fishing with them, Kaipo discovers a method in catching the elusive big 'ahi, and thus gains his brothers' respect as a fisherman.

E H Wallace

Wallace, William K. **Kuola and Iosepa = Kuola a me Iosepa.**

A young boy describes how his family builds and sails a traditional Hawaiian voyaging canoe. English and Hawaiian text.

E H Yamanaka

Yamanaka, Lois-Ann. **Snow Angel, Sand Angel.**

Claire, who lives in Hawai'i, dreams of snow falling from the sky, snowflakes melting on her tongue, and most of all, building a snowman. Ebook.

E H Yamashita

Yamashita, Todd. **Uncle's Magic Thrownet.**

Uncle's magic thrownet could catch every fish that there was in the sea. But a young visitor finds that all is not what it seems with Uncle's old net.

E H Yee (Board Book)

Yee, Tammy. **Whales' Tails & Turtle Trails.**

This colorful board book invites young children to identify different sea creatures while exploring rhymes, counting, and colors.

Compiled by the staff of the Edna Allyn Room for Children

Hawai'i State Library

Hawai'i State Public Library System

July 2025



Hawai'i State Public Library System