

CREATING A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

LESSON STARTER FOR HIGH SCHOOL KUMU



“Lesson starters” are guides that provide initial scaffolding for a lesson, allowing kumu to build out the lesson further by incorporating additional activities and resources of their own.



RATIONALE & GOALS

By analyzing relevant environmental issues, identifying possible solutions, and recognizing the impact of their own daily choices, students can adopt a navigator mindset and chart a new “sail path” for the future. They will commit to taking, and encouraging others to take, more sustainable actions to mālama our planet.

Goals for this lesson are to:

- Understand the impact of human actions on the environment.
- Analyze data and trends related to environmental issues.
- Pledge to take action for a sustainable earth through the #voyage4earth campaign.



ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What environmental issues are we facing in Hawai‘i and the world today, and what caused them?
- How can we improve the environmental trajectory we are on?



OPENING DISCUSSION

1. Begin by discussing the impact of human actions on the environment and the importance of sustainable practices.
2. Ask students to brainstorm examples of environmental issues they are aware of, and write them on a whiteboard.
3. Discuss the examples as a class, focusing on data and trends related to the issues, and emphasizing the need for individual and collective action to address them.



TAKE THE PLEDGE

Voyage-4-Earth Pledge

<https://hokulea.com/wp-content/uploads/Voyage4Earth-Coloring-Sheet.pdf>



- Introduce the #voyage4earth campaign by showing the students the campaign website <https://hokulea.com/moananuiakea/#voyage4earth> and explaining its goals (e.g. raising awareness about environmental issues and inspiring action).
- Encourage students to reflect on how they can commit to taking action for a sustainable earth.
- Engage students in a discussion about what actions they can take to help through the #voyage4earth campaign. Brainstorm a list of ideas as a class and write them on the whiteboard.
- Divide the class into small groups and provide them with data related to an environmental issue (e.g. carbon emissions, plastic waste, deforestation, etc.). Ask them to analyze the data and trends, and identify potential solutions to the issue.
- Pass out printed copies of the pledge to each student and invite them to come up with how they will #voyage4earth and make their own pledge.
- Encourage students to support the campaign by sharing their pledges on social media or with their school community.



CONCLUSION

- Ask students to share one action they plan to take to help protect the environment through the #voyage4earth campaign.
- Remind students that by participating in the campaign, they are joining a global community of people who care about the environment and want to make a positive impact.
- Encourage them to share their experiences with family and friends and invite them to join the campaign as well.