



## He‘eia Virtual Field Trip Glossary of Hawaiian Words

### Vocabulary Terms

- ahupua‘a – land division usually extending from the uplands to the sea, so called because the boundary was marked by a heap (*ahu*) of stones surmounted by an image of a pig (*pua‘a*), or because a pig or other tribute was laid on the alter as tax to the chief.
- ‘ama ‘ama – mullet, a very choice indigenous fish.
- ‘aumakua – family or personal gods, deified ancestors who might assume the shape of sharks or other animals.
- ‘auwai – ditch, canal.
- awa – milkfish.
- hau – a lowland tree, found in many warm countries.
- hale kia‘i – watchtower, tower, guard house.
- kahuna – priest.
- kapu – taboo, prohibition, forbidden.
- kia‘i loko – guard or caretaker of a fishpond.
- kōkua – to help, assist, support.
- kuapā – wall of a fishpond.
- loko kuapā – seashore fishponds made by building a wall of stone on a reef, artificially enclosing a water body.
- loko i‘a – fishpond.
- mākāhā – sluice gate of a fishpond; entrance to or egress from an enclosure.
- mālama ‘āina – taking care of the land
- moku – district.
- mokupuni – island; low or flat island, atoll.
- mo‘o – lizard, serpent, or reptile of any kind.
- mo‘olelo – story, tale, myth, history, tradition.
- ‘ōhelo – a small native shrub in the cranberry family. Formerly sacred to Pele, to whom offerings were made by throwing fruiting branches into the fiery pit at Kīlauea.
- Pele – named for the volcano goddess; lava flow, volcano, eruption.
- pua – young fish, fry, spawn.

### Location & Place Terms

- Hawai‘i – name of a Hawaiian island; also used as a reference to the group of Hawaiian islands.
- Kāne‘ohe – a variety of sweet potato, named for the place on windward O‘ahu.
- Kaua‘i – name of a Hawaiian island.
- Lāna‘i – name of a Hawaiian island.
- Maui – name of a Hawaiian island.
- Moloka‘i – name of a Hawaiian island.
- O‘ahu – name of the most populous of the Hawaiian Islands and the seat of Honolulu.