

SECRETS OF THE 'APAPANE

9:30a.m.-10:30a.m.

Meet At Kīlauea Visitor Center

Kindergarten



Photo credit: Lynda J Goff

An 'apapane nestled in a 'ōhi'a lehua

Essential Question: Why is the 'apapane such a special bird?

Photo Analysis:

What do you see in this photo?

How are 'apapane just like people?

(they nest, have families, feed babies, sing, play, etc.)

What questions do you have about 'apapane?



Photo Credit: David Boyle



Credit: H.Douglas Pratt

Setting the Stage

‘Apapane are found only in Hawai‘i. They are in the Honeycreeper family. Here is a picture of different types of honeycreepers. (Show large image.)

There are many of them in the park for us to enjoy.

Why do these birds have such different beaks? (the different types of beaks help different species of bird eat their favorite foods.)

Talk about how beaks are like spoons, forks and straws. (Some beaks help a bird to sip nectar, some beaks help to pry out a favorite yummy bug, some beaks can crack open tasty seeds, some can scoop out fruit.)

Activity 1: Walk with students to the front and Ka‘ū side of Volcano House Hotel (on the grassy area looking at Kīlauea Caldera) so children can listen and look for birds. Find a group of ‘ōhi‘a lehua trees to sit under and talk about the birds.

What special animals do you think live in the park? (birds, mongoose, bugs, snails, beetles, etc.)

Ask children to close their eyes for a moment. What do you hear? (birds, cars, wind in the trees)

What are the birds doing? (singing, eating, flying)

‘Apapane sing many different songs – let’s listen again.

Can you see any birds?

What color is the ‘apapane? (red, white, black.) Show large photo.

What do you think the ‘apapane eat? (Nectar from the flowers (from ohia, manane trees) (children roll their tongues to imitate how the birds eat. Make “slurpy” noises.)

Why do birds like the ‘apapane sing? (to talk to each other)

What are they singing about do you think?

How does the ‘apapane fly? (flapping their wings)

What special sound do the wings make? (Whirling/fluttering – children imitate the sound)

Where do the ‘apapane live in the park? (in the trees)

Activity 2: Color the ‘apapane drawing (see below) and sing a song. (Crayon and copies of the coloring page can be picked up at the education center or students can also take the pictures home and color at school.)

Song: ‘Apapane by Auntie Kathy Dambley

C

G7

‘Apapane, ‘apapane come fly away with me

C

To the forest we’ll wander, you’re so beautiful to see

F

C

F

C

Your colors, ‘ula‘ula, ke‘oke‘o, ‘ele‘ele

G7

C

‘Apapane, aloha, a hui hou.

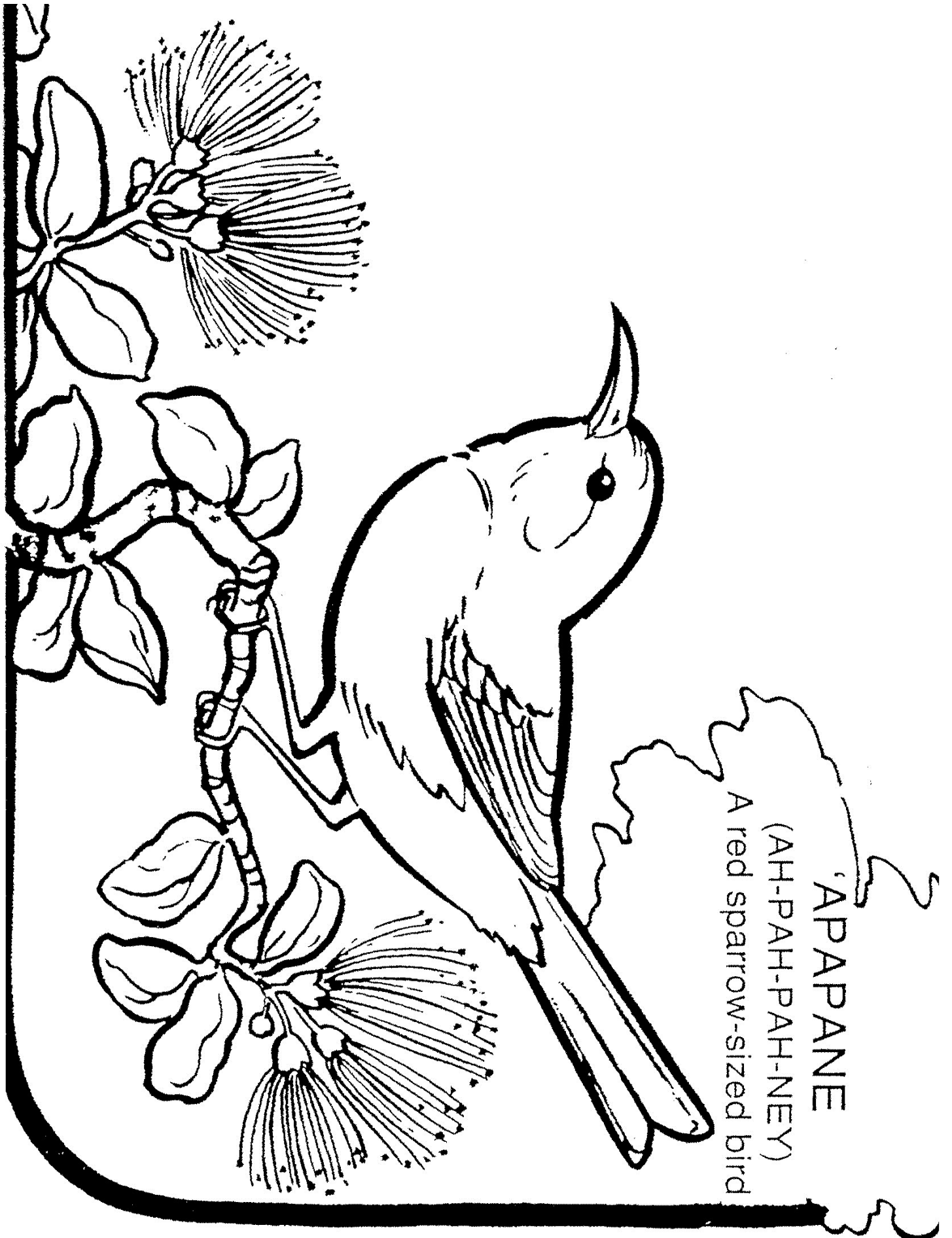


Closing:

Photo credit: Don Roberson

Revisit the Essential Question.

‘Apapane are very special because they are found only in Hawai‘i. If you walk quietly through the forest, you will begin to hear their many songs and the whirling sound of their wings. ‘Apapane live on the ‘ōhi‘a lehua trees and sip the nectar from the red flowers (and other plants with nectar). ‘Apapane are small, beautiful, red, white, and black birds. We can help take care of them by reminding our ‘ohana and friends to empty containers that have water in them where mosquitoes live. Also, we can help to save the trees of their forest home



'APAPANE

(AH-PAH-PAH-NEY)

A red sparrow-sized bird