

# Secrets of the 'Apapane

Kindergarten



'Apapane nestled in an 'ōhi'ā lehua tree.



'Apapane is a special bird and has secrets for you to discover.

## Setting the Stage

‘Apapane are found only in Hawai‘i. They are in the Honeycreeper family.

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. Ask children to close their eyes. Ask them – do you know that special animals live in the park? What do you hear? birds - What are they doing? singing, eating ‘Apapane sing many different songs – let’s listen. Can you see the birds? flying around Where do they live? trees What color is the ‘apapane? red, white, black. What do you think the ‘apapane eat? How does the ‘Apapane fly? (Wings) What special sound do the wings make? (Whirling/fluttering – children imitate the sound) What do they eat? (Nectar from the flowers-children roll their tongues to imitate how the birds eat) Where do the ‘apapane live in the park?

**Activity:** Color the ‘apapane picture and sing a song. Picture can be picked up at the ed center.

### **Song: ‘Apapane**

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**

‘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 help to save the trees.