

**Intended for Grades: 6-8 Estimated Time: 30-45 min.**

**Lesson Title: MY PLACE IN “DIS’ PLACE”**

**Lesson Purpose: Students will:**

- \* Be able to understand themselves and how they fit in their place
- \* Start to think about their *kuleana* to that place and how they can contribute and help their community thrive

**Materials & Preparation:**

- \* Regular copy paper and pencils

**Background Information:**

This activity is a tool to get students to think about their community or place, how they fit in it, what their *kuleana* (responsibility) is to that community, and how they can follow through with their responsibility. We never want any student to feel displaced. It is important that youth have or develop a connection to the place they call home.

**Steps:**

1. Distribute a sheet of paper to each student. Instruct them to fold their sheet in half both ways to leave themselves with four equal quadrants. Have them put the sheet in landscape or horizontally on the their desk.
2. Using just a pencil, ask students to use small print to write their first and last name in the very middle of the paper where the folds meet, and circle it. (*Make sure they leave room to draw on the rest of the paper*). Explain that it’s important to include and be proud of their last name because it represents who they are and where they come from.
3. Instruct students that they are going to create images or symbols that they can look at and easily share what they represent. Explain that these are quick sketches, simply done with pencil. Students will get just five minutes per rectangle.
4. In the first rectangle (top left), ask students to draw a picture that represents the place or community they are currently living in. (*Note: This is not necessarily the same place they would identify as “home”.*)
5. The next block (top right) will have an image of how they fit in the place they just drew. Prompts can be: *What is their relationship to that place? What are they known for amongst the people in that place? What is their reputation? What do they belong to?*
6. The third rectangle (bottom left) represents their *kuleana* (responsibility) to their place. Ask them: *As a member of this community, what do you need to contribute?*
7. In the last block (bottom right), students should draw an image that represents an action plan to improve in doing what they feel is their *kuleana*. Encourage them to be specific and make it something doable.

**Reflection Questions:**

*Was this difficult to do? What was difficult? Why?  
Have you thought about these things before? Explain what you drew.*