

Intended for Grades: 4-8 **Estimated Time:** 30-40 minutes

Lesson Title: WHO I AM

Lesson Purpose: Participants will do an introduction activity about self, using the Ipu (gourd) in connection to the Hawaiian host culture.

Materials & Preparation:

- * Chart Paper & pens
- * Ipu or picture of ipu (see handout below)
- * Pencils or pens; coloring pencils and pens
- * Hawaiian dictionary online web site: <http://wehewehe.org/>

Background Information:

An ipu is a container for many things, depending on each one's unique characteristics. It also symbolically represents self. See below for information about the ipu.

In this lesson, students are asked to learn some basic Hawaiian phrases to introduce themselves. Keeping the language alive is a critical component to helping Hawaiian culture continue to grow and be a foundation for this land.

Steps:

1. Share a picture of an ipu (see below) or the actual object if available. Ask prior knowledge questions: What is this? What is it used for? Have students write a list of uses on chart paper.
2. Share background information on the Ipu to add to chart (see below).
3. Pass out the Ipu handout. Have student fill in a-g, in any 7 spaces on Ipu handout, Help students learn Hawaiian language by modeling and helping them use the online Hawaiian dictionary at <http://wehewehe.org/>:
 - a. Aloha
 - b. O ([name](#)) ko`u inoa. (O Leilani ko`u inoa.)
 - c. Mai ([where you live](#)) mai au. (Mai [Wahiawa](#) mai au.)
 - d. No ([for youth originally from away](#)) mai au. (No [Alaska](#) mai au.)
 - e. ([Age](#)) o`u makahiki. ([Umi](#) o`u makahiki.)
 - f. Makemake au ([a hobby](#)). (Makemake au fishing.)
 - g. A me ([another hobby](#)). (A me cooking.)
 - h. Students may color their ipu.
5. Have each student introduce them self, using their ipu.

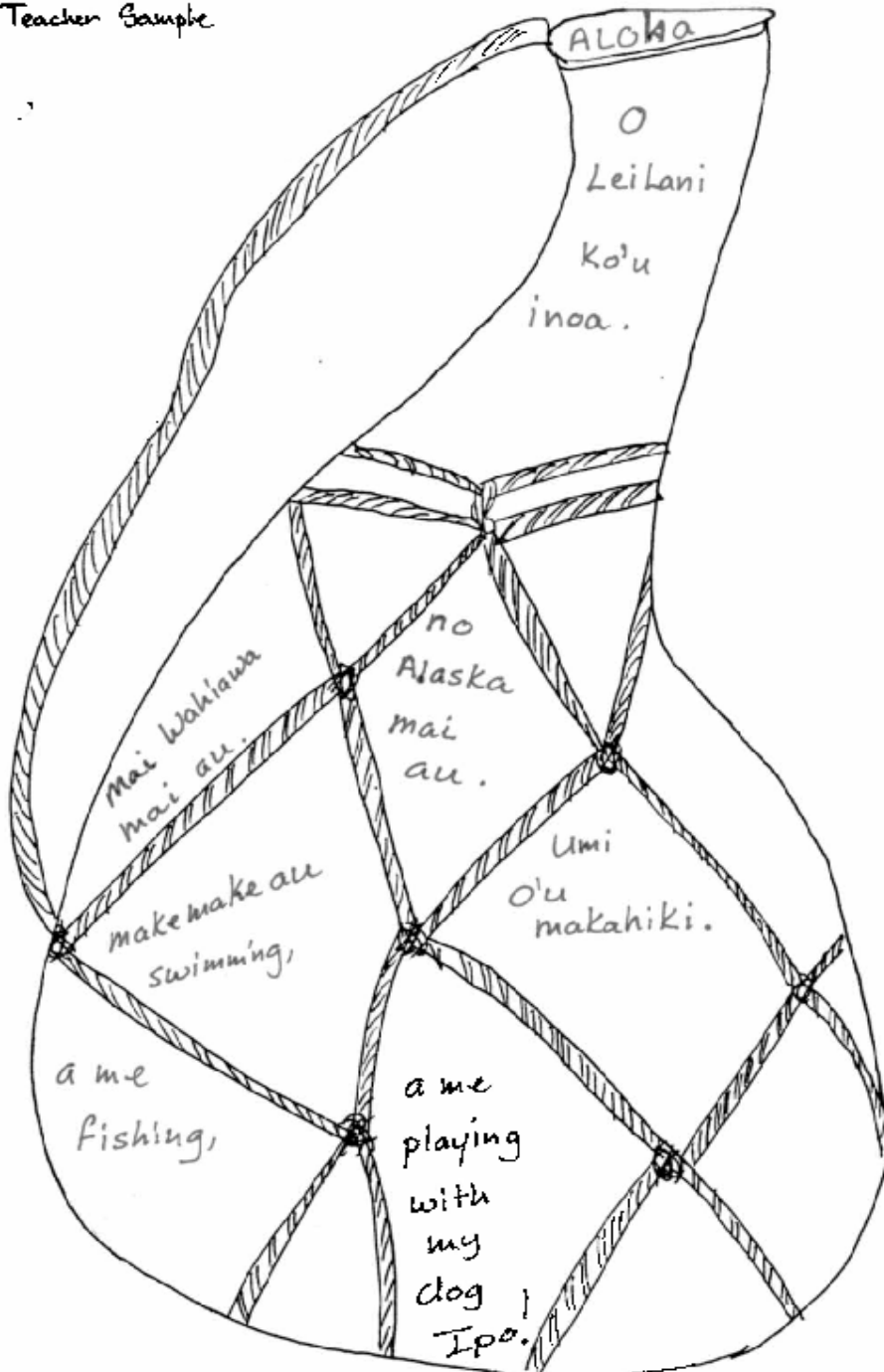
Reflection Questions:

- * What is the host culture, and why is it important?
- * What are some hobbies you have in common?

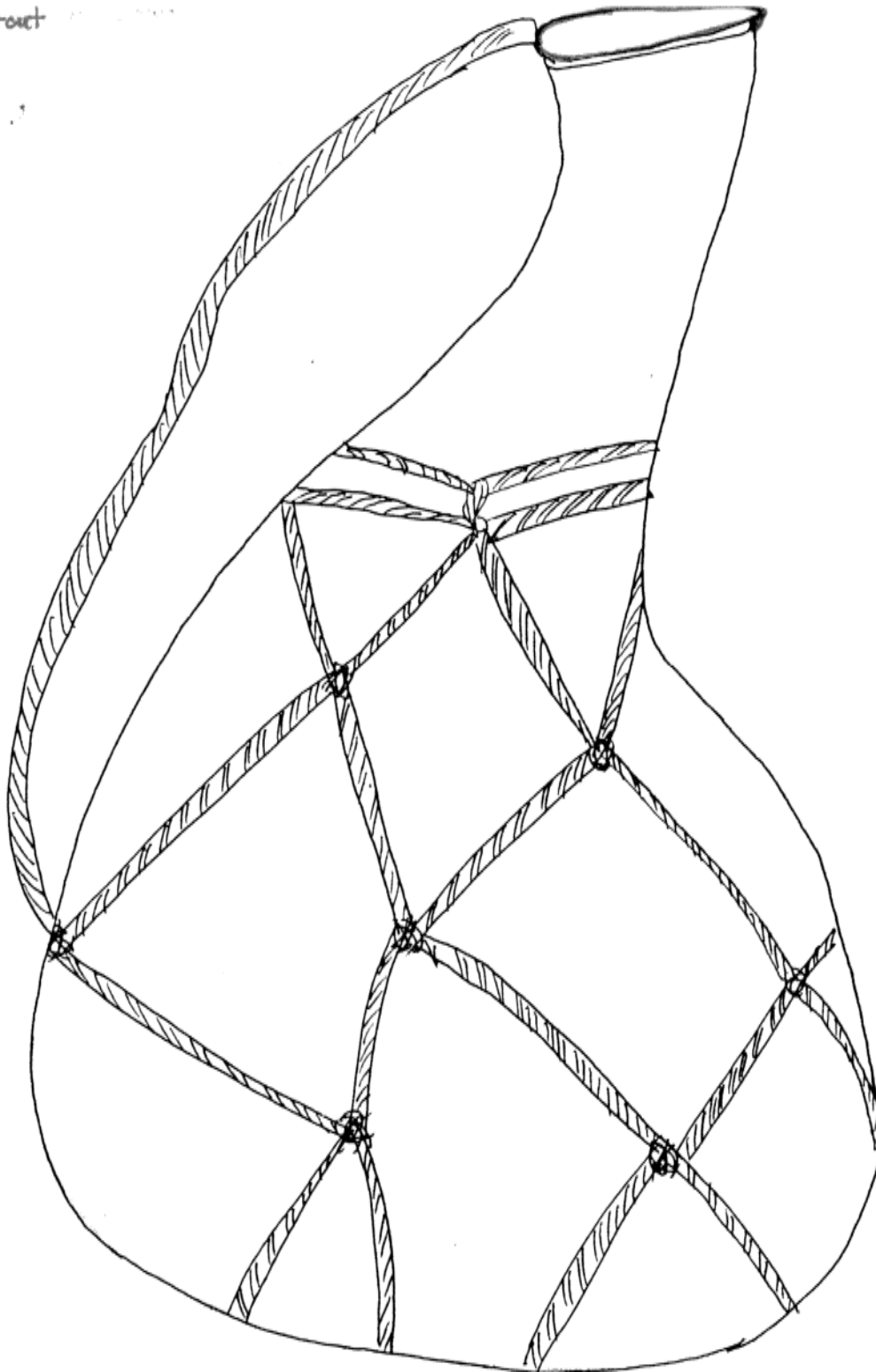
Resources:

http://www.kaahelehawaii.com/pages/culture_ipu.htm

Teacher Sample



Hand-out



Hawaiians thought of the Ipu as being a vessel of great use and importance, much like ourselves. Who am I?
Where do I come from? What makes me... ME!

Ipu --- The *ipu* was chosen to carry life giving water and to store life giving food. The *ipu* produced beautiful rhythms, becoming the heartbeat of the *hula*. The *ipu* is a storage of spiritual knowledge, wisdom, and the purest of thoughts.



'Ohana Poi Bowl – The *ipu* used as a container for poi is a symbol of respect, kindness, courtesy, and purity of ones words. It represents physical and spiritual well---being. (Pono---goodness, moral, correct)



Ipu Na`auao –

This *ipu* is symbolic of wisdom and intelligence, with the lesson of one thought, one mind (Pō`ohala --- excellence)



Ipu Hue Wai – Symbolizes life itself and the quality of living. Its refreshing water teaches us the lesson of wellness of mind, body and spirit. (Ola--- life, well being)



'Umeke Ho`okipa – the roundness of the *ipu* is symbolic of *aloha*, trusting warmth and hospitality. Its lesson is unconditional giving. (Aloha --- compassion; Mālama --- caring)

