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Water has no substitute...Conserve it!

News Release

For Immediate Release: September 23, 2019

DOW's Make a Splash festival advances water education to a new level

LĪHU'E – The Department of Water (DOW) hosted its signature annual water education event; the Make a Splash with Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) Festival on September 20, 2019 at the Vidinha Stadium Soccer Field in Līhu'e. The event hosted nearly 700 fifth grade students and offered 10 water education activity stations this year.

“We selected activities from the Project WET curriculum and from community partners, to offer lessons that could be applied to science, technology, engineering, art and math,” said Jonell Kaohelaulii, DOW’s information and education specialist who coordinates the annual festival. “The combination of; an outdoor classroom setting, fun activities and our amazing volunteers, help students to focus on the important lessons being presented, while the interactive activity component allows them to apply their newfound knowledge towards making informed decisions and ultimately gain a better understanding of water.”

The DOW coordinates the annual Make a Splash with Project WET festival and invites 5th grade students from around the island each year. At the festival, students participate in interactive activities, experience educational exhibits and learn how human behavior and environmental events affects water-dependent users including agriculture, recreation, groundwater, local industries and wildlife habitats.

Kaua’i’s Make a Splash with Project WET Festival is currently the state’s largest and only water education festival. The festival is a part of DOW’s community outreach and education program to educate and promote water conservation and awareness to current and future water customers.

The DOW would like to thank the following supporters of the Make a Splash with Project WET festival for helping to make this year’s festival a huge success: East Kauai & West Kauai Soil and Water Conservation Districts; state Department of Education; state Department of Health – Safe Drinking Water Branch; UH College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH-CTAHR) Kauai Agricultural Research Center; Aqua Engineers Inc.; Hawai’i Rural Water Association; Kodani and Associates LLC.; Grove Farm; The Nature Conservancy; Kapa’a High School – JROTC Warrior Battalion; Cheifess Kamakahaiei Middle School Media Production Program; the Kauai Board of Water Supply and DOW staff, family members and retirees.

For more information about the Make a Splash with Project WET Festival or Project WET Hawaii, please contact the Department of Water at 245-5461.

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Photo by Department of Water

Volunteer, Nic Barca (far left) demonstrates how life as a water molecule is like a spin-of-the-dice; ending up in the lake, cloud or animal, etc., as part of the activity, “The Incredible Journey” at DOW’s Make a Splash with Project WET festival on Friday.



Photo by Department of Water

A student offers a thank you salute to Kapa’a High School JROTC Warrior Battalion cadets as they distribute goodie bags after the Make a Splash event.

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Photo by Department of Water

A student from King Kaumuali'i Elementary School tries to pump water out from a rocky groundwater display, as part of the activity, "Just Understanding Groundwater" where students learn about groundwater and the various types of aquifers at Make a Splash.

The activity station was sponsored by the state of Hawai'i's Department of Health – Safe Drinking Water Branch.



Photo by Department of Water

Students participated in an action-packed relay race during "The Long Haul" activity, to demonstrate water system functions of delivering water from a source to the storage tank.

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