

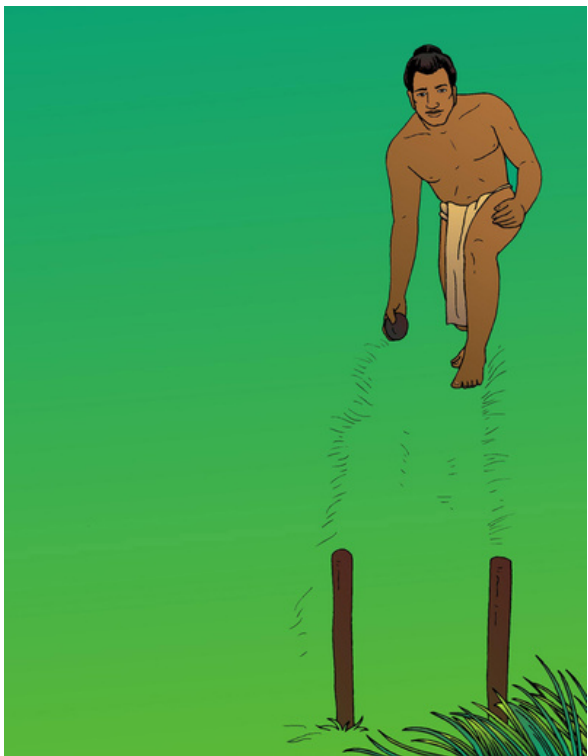
Kamehameha Schools Preschools

MAKAHIKI



Makahiki is a four month season that begins when the constellation, Makali'i, rises in the east. During the Makahiki season, war and certain types of laborious work was forbidden and peace and fertility for the people, animals and land prevailed.

The akua Lonoikamakahiki (Lono), who represents life, fertility, and agriculture, was honored during this time. The ali'i nui (ruling chief) would make a circuit of the island with a representation of Lono, called the akua loa. The akua loa is a long staff with a ki'i (carving) of Lono at the top. A cross piece was fastened near the top and from it hung kapa, pala (fern), feather lei and skins of the ka'upu bird, all kinolau (physical manifestations) of Lono. The ali'i would collect tribute on Lono's behalf and in return Lono would bless their 'āina (land) and people with abundance. Games and competition were common during makahiki. One popular game that encourages hand eye coordination is 'ulumaiika. 'Ulu maika is played by rolling a rounded stone between two sticks.



Additional Resources

Lono ([Kumukahi, video](#))

Makahiki_An Overview ([Ka'iwakīloumoku, article](#))

Pā'ani 'Ālapa ([Kumukahi, video](#))

