Anchialine Pools STEM Kit

Anchialine pools are unique coastal brackish water pools that only occur on the islands of Hawai‘i. Over use of water has led to the depletion of the aquifers that keep these pools in balance. Students build physical models to learn how the hidden groundwater is vital to the survival of these culturally significant pools.

Big Concepts: groundwater – surface water interactions, stratification, effects of groundwater extraction via wells

Place based and culturally relevant

Scientific Inquiry Skills:

- Constructing physical models
- Map versus cross-sectional views
- Use of science notebook

Grade Levels: 4th grade and up

Number of Kits per Set: 15

Student Group Size: 2

Time Required: 90-120 minutes

Web page:
https://www.cns-eoc.colostate.edu/national-park-service-partnership/anchialine-pools-stem-kit/

Funding: National Park Service

Faculty Collaborator: None

These kits are available for loan to schools from Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park on the island of Hawai‘i.

College of Natural Sciences
Education & Outreach Center

Colorado State University

NS Education & Outreach Center Mission Statement

The Natural Sciences Education & Outreach Center is an incubator for innovation in STEM education. We serve both CSU and 4th-12th grade students and faculty through a variety of programs. Many of our programs focus on authentic scientific research experiences that aim to promote enthusiasm for the STEM disciplines, especially for students traditionally underrepresented in these fields. Particular emphasis is on finding new ways to promote scientific creativity and innovation, attributes essential for global challenges in the 21st century.

Learn more:
https://www.cns-eoc.colostate.edu/

National Park Service Partnership

Since 2011, the EOC has been collaborating with the National Park Service on the development of pre-visit, syn-visit, and post-visit hands-on STEM activities for students grades 4th - 12th. The goal is to create place-based and culturally relevant STEM experiences that help students understand the science behind critical regional issues.

Learn more:
https://www.cns-eoc.colostate.edu/national-park-service-partnership/

Discovery Begins Here