Take Care of the Ocean
A Coloring Book for all Ages

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Hawai‘i is surrounded by a vast ocean that connects us to the rest of the world. As island people we have a kuleana or responsibility to take care of the ocean, like our Hawaiian ancestors did.
As descendants from the greatest seafarers on earth, Hawaiians have always been very comfortable in and on the ocean.
Many traditional Hawaiian fishing techniques are still used effectively today to sustain ourselves from the ocean.
Our Hawaiian ancestors had a harmonious relationship with the ocean, taking only what they needed and showing their gratitude for the things supplied by the ocean. This is also our responsibility today.
Since the beginning of time, the ocean has provided for and taken care of Hawai‘i’s people. Unfortunately, over the past 200 years, many traditional practices which protected the ocean were almost forgotten.
This neglect of the ocean has resulted in many problems.
Declining ‘Opihi populations

Cyanide Fishing

Overfishing and using illegal methods have caused a decline in many ocean delicacies.
One traditional Hawaiian proverb or ʻōlelo noʻeau states, “ʻAʻohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia,” which means no task is too big when done together. By pooling our strengths we can clean up our ocean and take care of it for future generations, like our ancestors did.
Kuleana (Responsibility)

In order for the ocean to be healthy again, it needs the support of the people. It is our responsibility to:

- Clean up after yourself and don't leave trash behind!
- Collect trash at the beach and in the ocean!
- Use reef-safe biodegradable sunscreen!
- Protect areas from over-fishing or gathering!

By all of us working together to take care of the ocean, we can assure that our ocean once again can take care of us.
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