What is OPIHI?

OPIHI is an acronym for Our Project In Hawaii’s Intertidal. We are a partnership between several Hawaii GK-12 schools and Graduate Fellows from the University of Hawaii with funding from the National Science Foundation.

Our goal

Our goal is to establish school-based long-term monitoring projects at intertidal sites throughout the islands. This will provide important information to resource managers on a virtually unknown area of Hawaii’s biota while getting students involved and excited about science.

What will we learn?

Through in class science inquiry lessons and field activities teachers and students explore the intertidal zone; learning about algae, invertebrates, and fishes. They also learn important scientific research skills. Overall, students will increase their awareness of ecology, evolution, and conservation biology and gain confidence in their abilities. Perhaps most importantly, students will learn that science is fun!

What is the intertidal zone?

The intertidal zone is the area of shore between high and low tides. It includes tidepools as well as the area of the shore that receives splash from waves.

Why OPIHI may work in your classroom:

The OPIHI project is extremely flexible. We encourage you to tailor the program to meet the needs of your curriculum.

OPIHI covers many of the Hawaii Science Education Standards. These include scientific inquiry and knowledge, cycles of matter and energy, and biological evolution.

You do not need any prior knowledge about the intertidal to take part in OPIHI!

OPIHI can be easily incorporated into science, language arts, math, art, and culture classes.

How to get involved

If you would like to be a partner or find out more about OPIHI feel free to contact Joanna (philippo@hawaii.edu) or Matt (knope@hawaii.edu).