



Explorer Classroom Event Guide: Grades 3-8
Traditional Polynesian Voyaging with Lehua Kamalu
February 24, 2022, 2:00PM Eastern Time and March 17, 2022, 2:00PM
Eastern Time

Help your students get the most out of their Explorer Classroom experience by choosing one or more of the activities from each section below:

FIRST THINGS FIRST

[Register here!](#) Registering your class gives you a chance to be featured on screen with the Explorer, a shout out during the intro, and helpful email reminders before the event. Remember, the further in advance you register the more likely you are to be selected to be onscreen.

BEFORE THE EVENT

Research the Explorer and pick 1 or more activities to complete before the event date:

- ❑ Explorer Lehua Kamalu has sailed 2,800 miles from Hawaii to California! **Read [here](#)** to learn more about this amazing journey. Then [hop aboard](#) the Hokulea (virtually) to learn more about the canoe. *Ask:* What kind of ancient technology are they using? What kind of modern technology is on board?
- ❑ **Watch [this video](#)** to learn more about how Ancient Polynesians navigated vast areas of ocean. *Ask:* What did Ancient Polynesians use to navigate? What do you think it would be like to cross the ocean without a GPS or compass?
- ❑ Polynesia is the name of the region of islands located in the Pacific. Use the [mapmaker](#) tool to **locate** this region. Map the distance between Hawaii and California. *Think* about how long that voyage would take.
- ❑ **Brainstorm questions for the Explorer** Help your learners revise their questions, making sure they are specific and are asking only one thing. You may need to work together through a few drafts to arrive at a solid final question. Consider using question words like **WHERE, WHAT, WHEN, HOW, WHY, & WHO** to brainstorm a long list of questions, then choosing your favorites from the list to ask the Explorer.

DURING THE EVENT

Pick 1 organizer to help you out during the event:

- ❑ [Two-Column Chart](#): Print copies or ask your students to draw their own two-column chart. Have your students write things they are learning in one column and in the other, write questions about that information, or draw something related to it.
- ❑ [Cause-and-Effect Diagram](#): Have your students use this organizer to identify what happened (effect) and why it happened (cause).
- ❑ Your list of questions: write your list of questions you came up with for the explorer on the board, or print copies of the list for the class. As the Explorer presents, see how many answers your class can find!

AFTER THE EVENT

Choose from the discussion questions and reflection activities to process the event:

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was your favorite part of today's talk? Why?
2. What was one new thing you learned during the Explorer Classroom event you didn't know before?
3. Are there any similar issues in your area?
4. What skills, tools, or knowledge do you think are needed to explore?
5. What do you think the most important message was from the Explorer?

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

- Write a short news article to tell others what the Explorer is working on and why that work is important.
- Produce a short video or social media post explaining one thing you learned today and one thing you're curious to learn more about.
- Make a map that plots where the Explorer works. You can use a digital tool like [MapMaker](#) or a physical map in the classroom. Add details from the presentation to it. As you attend more Explorer Classroom events, keep adding to the map!

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE

We LOVE to see student work and share it with the Explorers who inspired it! Please feel free to share student projects and reflections by using the [#ExplorerClassroom](#) and tagging [@NatGeoEducation](#) on Twitter, or by emailing them to explorerclassroom@ngs.org

OPTIONAL EXTENSION RESOURCES

Try one of these related resources and keep exploring with National Geographic Education.

- *Join in the Explorer's Mission:* What are some themes from the event today? How do those play out in your community?
- [Polynesian Voyaging Society](#): Visit the official website to learn more about the project and see where the team is traveling next!
- [One Ocean](#): Students explore the boundaries of Earth's five oceans, recognizing that they are all connected. Students discuss what this means for conservation of the one world ocean.

Looking for more ways to engage your students online, in-person, or at home? Find more on our [Learn Anywhere](#) page or in our [Resource Library](#).