



THE ACTS OF KINDNESS SERIES

Promoting global kindness while raising the level of environmental consciousness and disability awareness.

Dear Educational Sponsor:

We would like to introduce you to the Acts of Kindness series of books and puppets, designed to foster social and emotional learning in Hawaii's schools.

Contained in these books are important messages about anti-bullying, ocean cleanup and mindfulness. The books also teach basic sign language skills, and alphabet finger spelling. As an additional learning tool, award-winning Folkmanis® puppets are used to bring the characters and stories to life.

You can support teachers in Oahu's classrooms by making these Acts of Kindness books and puppets available. **It's easy to do, through the non-profit organization [Donors Choose.org](https://www.donorschoose.org) whose mission is to "support a classroom, build a future."**

By sponsoring a teacher's request, each student will receive a book. Teachers will be provided with the character puppets, for use as visual teaching aids and to assist in their curriculum development.

Attached is Marilyn Rodgers' story, a teacher on the Leeward side of Oahu who has utilized the Acts of Kindness books in her classroom. Her letter explains how the DonorsChoose.org program works, and what a difference it has made in the lives of her students.

Aloha,

Marianne Ambrose

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Aloha:

This is my story of how I was able to afford and fund the purchase of this book, and how it was used with students in my classroom.

I teach at a community-based school, on the Leeward side of the Island of Oahu. The school is a Hawaiian focused public conversion charter school that embraces all cultures, with Hawaiian culture being the piko (center). Our students learn about Hawaiian values, customs, traditions, music, legends and language. They are engaged through rigorous study, the arts, and project-based learning.

The Waianae Coast is a wonderful place to grow up with beaches, fishing, gardening and natural beauty. Our students need to broaden their hopes, to be encouraged to have high aspirations, and to be provided with many opportunities to learn.

More than three-quarters of the students come from low-income households. We needed 75 copies of Underwater Acts of Kindness for a hands-on, inspirational science project. The project combines music, glove puppetry, and powerful stories to raise awareness about cleaning up the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

DonorsChoose.org negotiated the best pricing and selection available. Brooke, a volunteer at DonorsChoose.org, packaged the hand-written thank you letters, written by my students, and sent them on to the eligible donor(s).

My students truly enjoy this curriculum. We have also used the Underwater Acts of Kindness books in our social studies classes as we studied the history and manufacturing of plastic. Because of this interesting story, we are planning community-based field trips to include a "litter bugs me" project.

We are eager to bring Marianne's second book, Rabbit Acts of Kindness: No Bully! to our students to impart the anti-bullying message as well as future books in the series.

DonorsChoose.org is a fabulous organization! In addition to these books, they have assisted us with requests for air conditioning and carpeting. We are deeply grateful to the generous individuals and organizations that support DonorsChoose.org

Without them, I don't know what we would do!

Mahalo,
Marilyn Rodgers
Department of Education Teacher

