



Growing Together

Created: 02/2024 by the National FFA Organization

Description of Lesson: Aloha is more than a greeting; it's sharing life's force. In her retiring address, 2022-23 National FFA Southern Region Vice President MacKenna Clifton shares stories of others embracing aloha.

Student Learning Objectives:

After completing these activities, students will ...

- 1. Define the deeper meaning of aloha.
- 2. Identify how they relate to aloha.
- 3. Describe one part of aloha in their personal lives.

Suggested Grade Level:

Grades 9 and 10 (This lesson is written so instructors can scale up or down based on class needs.)

Suggested Time: 60 minutes (*Time requirements may vary based upon student understanding and class schedule.)

Resources/References:

- 1. Video: "Growing Together" | MacKenna Clifton 2023 Retiring Adress, <https://vimeo.com/883747757>

Related Resources:

- 1. Retiring Addresses and Keynote Speeches, [FFA.org/ffa-video-center/convention-keynotes-and-retiring-addresses/](https://ffa.org/ffa-video-center/convention-keynotes-and-retiring-addresses/)

Equipment and Supplies Needed:

- 1. A copy of the "Growing Together" worksheet for each student
- 2. Internet access to play the video in real-time or embed it in a PowerPoint ahead of time

Vocabulary:

- 1. Aloha
- 2. Challenging
- 3. Lei

Cross-Curricular Connections:

English/Language Arts
• Write a short story related to aloha.

Virtual Instruction Ideas:

Have students download and watch the video on a device of their choice and complete the worksheet.

Student Activity Sheets:

Direct access to student activity sheets without lesson plan or answer key for easy upload to a learning management system or printing for classwork.

Word: <https://ffa.box.com/s/t6jw4f62i9rafcra8gunoglgienksbnm>

PDF: <https://ffa.box.com/s/t7ay6i5w78sm1rcc6oduza91drxia54v>

Google Docs: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/16OMBo2uBibLM9FIWeyjGC35aAQcsENVD94-SPf09zDU/copy>

Undesigned: <https://ffa.box.com/s/mf9flw1h5cdx4rr7lfnyom7n4frj4uvh>

These Activities Are Aligned to the Following Standards:

FFA Precept

- FFA.PL-A.Action: Assume responsibility and take the necessary steps to achieve the desired results, no matter what the goal or task at hand.
- FFA.PL-D.Character: Conduct oneself appropriately in relation to others regardless of the situation.
- FFA.CS-M.Communication: Effectively interact with others in personal and professional settings.

Common Core – Writing

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Common Core – Speaking and Listening

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1 Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.4 Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.

AFNR Career Ready Practices

- CRP.04. Communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason. Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal and/or visual methods.

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

- Collaboration
- Communication
- Initiative and Self-direction
- Productivity and Accountability
- Think Creativity

Lesson Plan:

1. **Bell Ringer:** What does “aloha” mean? Where have you heard this term?
2. **Introduction:** Give each student the “Growing Together” worksheet. *Today, we are going to watch a retiring address from the 96th National FFA Convention & Expo. This retiring address was given by 2022-23 National FFA Southern Region Vice President MacKenna Clifton. In her speech, we will learn that aloha is more than a greeting; it’s sharing life’s force. As we are watching the video, look over the questions on the worksheet “Growing Together” and be ready for the answers.*
3. **Activity:** Each student needs a copy of the worksheet “Growing Together.”
 - a. **Part 1:** Have students watch the retiring address of 2022-23 National FFA Southern Region Vice President MacKenna Clifton. The video is available at <https://vimeo.com/883747757>. While students watch the video, have them complete the questions.
 - a. **Part 2:** After learning the true meaning of aloha, students will write a short story about their experience with aloha. They will share an instance where they learned from someone around them, where they challenged someone or where they lent a hand.
4. **Follow-up:** After students complete their stories and share with a partner, have a few students share with the class. What are some of the takeaways in their stories?
5. **Exit Ticket:** How do you think practicing components of aloha will impact your everyday life?

Name: _____

Growing Together

Aligned to the following standards:

FFA.PL-A; FFA.PL-D; FFA.CS-M; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.4; CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1; CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.4; CRP.04.

Part 1

Directions:

Answer the following questions while watching the retiring address of 2022-23 National FFA Southern Region Vice President Mackenna Clifton, "Growing Together." The video is available at <https://vimeo.com/883747757>.

1. True or False: Mackenna is the first woman from North Carolina elected to serve as southern region vice president.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. What does "aloha" mean according to Uncle David?

3. What questions stuck with Mackenna?
 - a.

 - b.

4. What type of animal does Gabriel care for?

5. Where did Mackenna meet Brie?

6. What fear did Mackenna conquer by going on the "big swing"?

7. What did Serena teach Mackenna how to make?

8. What is a lei a symbol of?

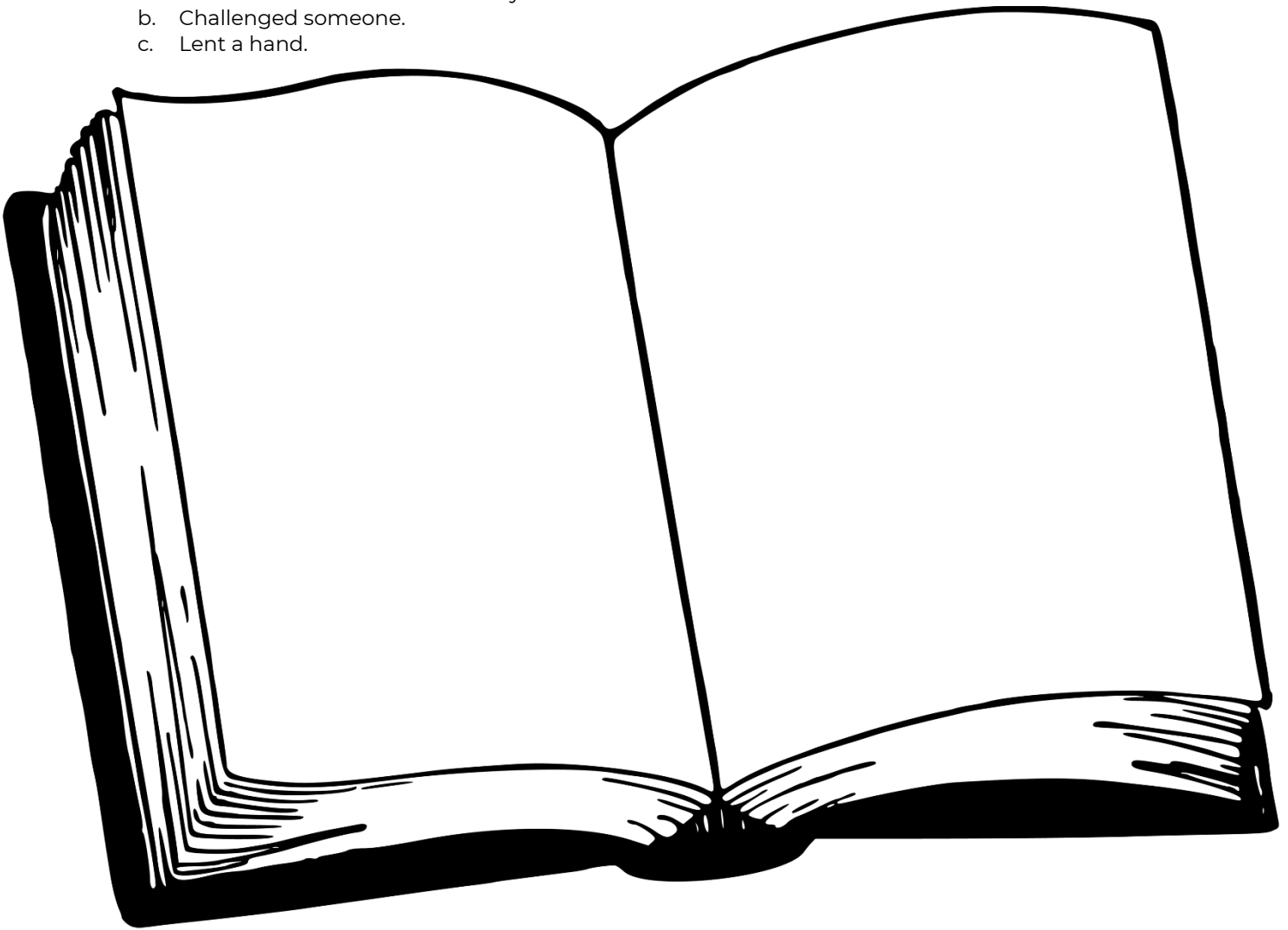
Name: _____

Part 2

Directions:

According to Uncle David, "Aloha is more than hello. It's about giving one's breath to another; it's choosing to lean in and give ourselves to others." Choose one part of what "aloha" means and write a short story.

1. Share an instance where you:
 - a. Learned from someone around you.
 - b. Challenged someone.
 - c. Lent a hand.



2. After your story is complete, share it with a partner. What instance did they share? What are the takeaways from their story?

Name: _____

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KEY: Growing Together

Part 1

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1. True or False: Mackenna is the first woman from North Carolina elected to serve as southern region vice president.
 - a. **True**
 - b. False

2. What does "aloha" mean according to Uncle David?
More than hello, it's about giving one's breath to another; it's choosing to lean in and give ourselves to others.

3. What questions stuck with Mackenna?
 - a. **What if we chose to give more of ourselves to others?**
 - b. **What if we choose to pour into those around us and learn from those around us?**

4. What type of animal does Gabriel care for?
Cattle

5. Where did Mackenna meet Brie?
Camp Oswegatchie in New York

6. What fear did Mackenna conquer by going on the "big swing"?
Fear of heights

7. What did Serena teach Mackenna how to make?
A lei

8. What is a lei a symbol of?
Aloha

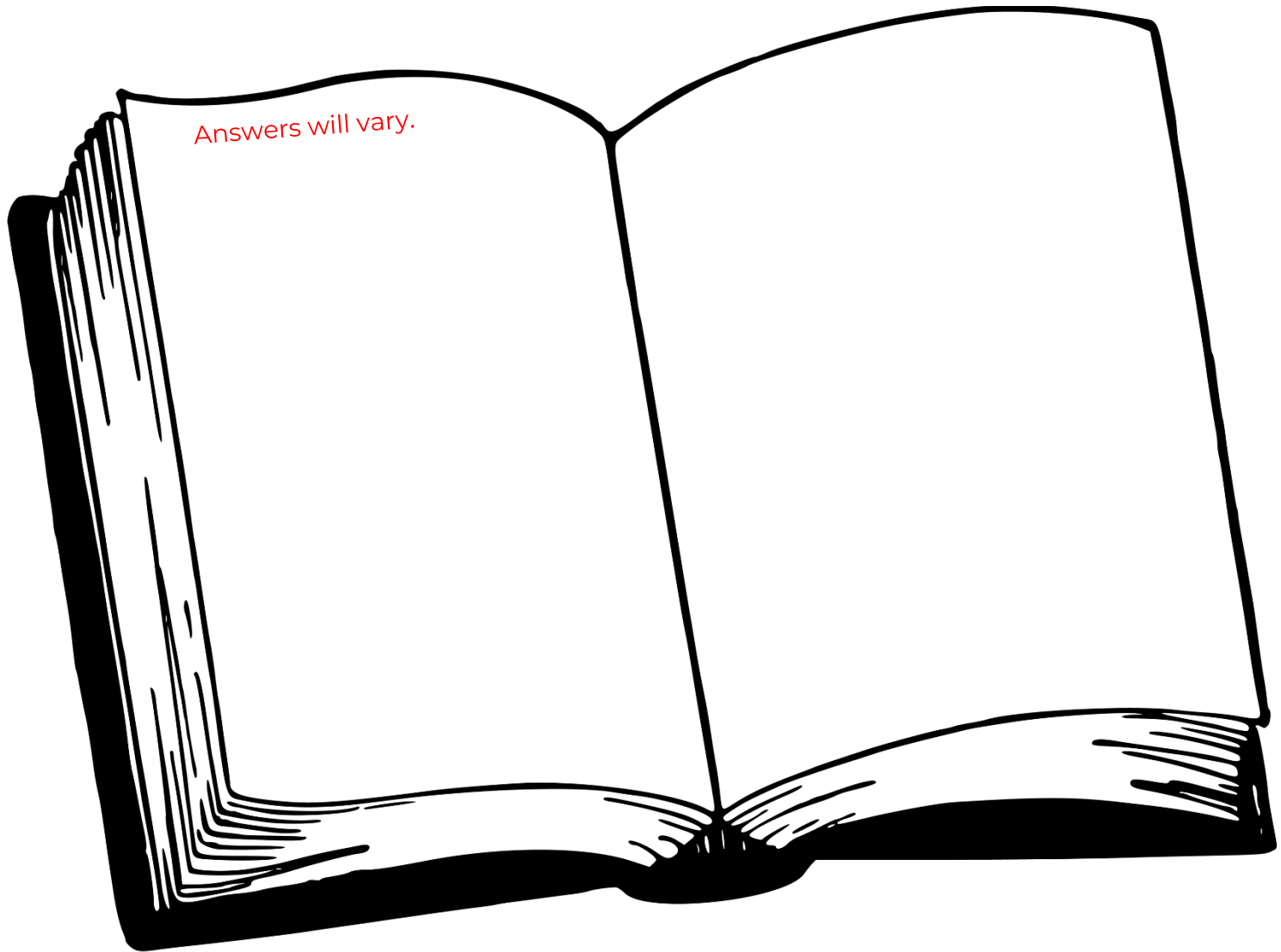
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1. Share an instance where you:
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2. After your story is complete, share it with a partner. What instance did they share? What are the takeaways from their story?

Answers will vary.