

Tuvalu Ministry of Education and Sports
Department of Education

Social Science Support Materials

Island Stories (Classes 1 – 4)

Prepared by the Teachers of Tuvalu in association with Griffith University through the
Tuvalu Australia Education Support Project (TAESP)

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Introduction

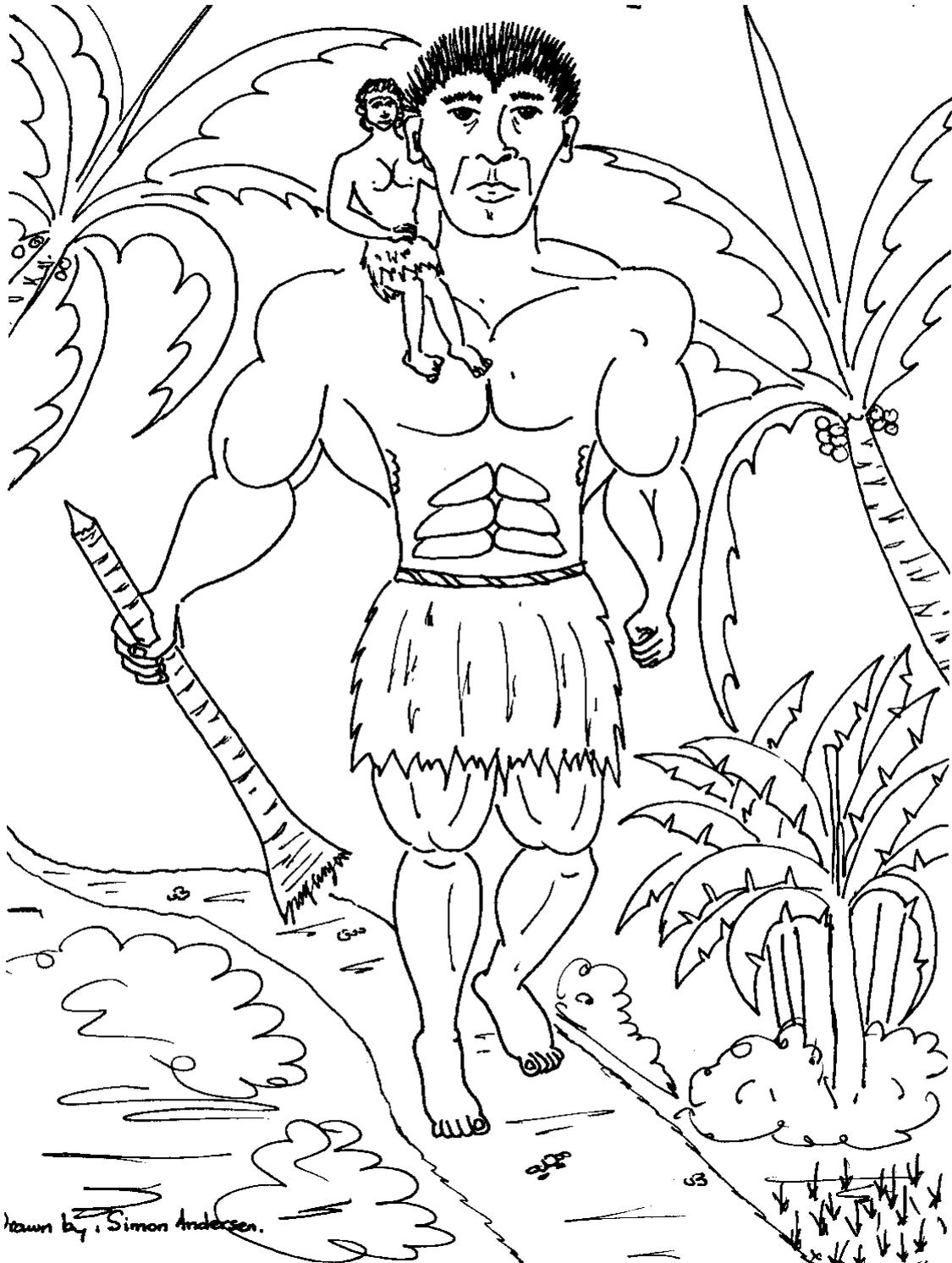
The booklet is designed to accompany the TAESP 'Island Stories' audio tape, which has been developed to support the Tuvalu Australia Education Support Project's Social Science Syllabus.

The stories on the audiotape are recorded in Tuvaluan. There is one story from each of the islands. The first section of this booklet includes summaries of the traditional stories in English. The second section contains activity sheets to accompany each of the stories.

The audiotape and booklet can be used for any Class level and for any purpose according to the teachers' needs. However it was specifically developed to support the objectives for Classes 1 – 4, for example:

| Class Level | Syllabus Strand | Objective |
|--------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1 - 2 | Culture and Heritage | CH1/2. 2 Students make comparisons of traditions and customs with other islands in Tuvalu and neighbouring countries. |
| 1 - 2 | Culture and Heritage | CH1/2. 5 Students describe similarities and differences between features of their own island culture and those of other islands within Tuvalu. |
| 1 - 2 | Place, Space and Environment | PSE1/2. 9 Students identify a place that is important and explain why it is important. |
| 3 - 4 | Culture and Heritage | CH3/4. 4 Students identify the cultures and heritages of people who live in particular communities. |
| 3 - 4 | Culture and Heritage | CH3/4. 7 Students explain how certain features of the community reflect people's heritage. |
| 3 - 4 | Place, Space and Environment | PSE3/4 .1 Students explain why people chose to record particular features of places and environments. |
| 3 - 4 | Place, Space and Environment | PSE3/4 .2 Students explain why people record descriptions of places and environments in different ways. |
| 3 - 4 | Place, Space and Environment | PSE3/4 .4 Students investigate stories of migration within Tuvalu. |
| 3 - 4 | Place, Space and Environment | PSE3/4 .8 Students explain what place names reveal about places and environments. |
| 3 - 4 | Time, Continuity and Change | TCC3/4 .3 Students give examples of ways in which people are connected with their past. |
| 3 - 4 | Time, Continuity and Change | TCC3/4 .5 Students discuss evidence of change and continuity in their local area. |
| 3 - 4 | Time, Continuity and Change | TCC3/4 .6 Students identify events that people in a community experienced in the recent past and the distant past. |
| 3 - 4 | Time, Continuity and Change | TCC3/4 .7 Students give examples of ways in which knowing about their past helps people to understand who they are. |
| 3 - 4 | Time, Continuity and Change | TCC3/4 .9 Students identify people who have contributed to change in Tuvalu. |

Part One: Traditional Island Stories



Laga o Tuli o Tulapoupou

The 'Knee-prints' of Tulapoupou: A Story from Nanumea

In the olden days, warriors from Tonga came on canoes to make war with the people of Nanumea. It happened that on Nanumea, most of the Tongan warriors were killed by warriors of Nanumea, except for Tulapoupou who was known to be a giant.

There was also a warrior from Nanumea named Lapi who was described as very brave. Tulapoupou heard about Lapi and went to search for him. As he searched for him he uprooted big trees that were blocking his way but finally he caught Lapi.

He picked up Lapi, who looked so small and tiny beside the giant, and carried him on his shoulder to a small pool of water. The small pool of water was said to be a bathing place for the King of the island. Tulapoupou told Lapi that he would throw him into the pool of water and have him crushed on the rocks.

Whilst they were walking to the pool, Lapi fell asleep on the giant's shoulders and dreamt that someone came and advised him on what to do. The voice in his dream told him that when Tulapoupou was about to throw him down he should push the giant with all his might and call out these words: 'Tefolaha tena tou hoa' (Tefolaha is your opponent).' Tefolaha was the name of another giant from Nanumea.

When they reached the spot and Tulapoupou was about to throw Lapi down, Lapi followed the advice in his dream and shouted the words. Tulapoupou fell into the pool of water with his knees crushing into the rocks and got stuck. He tried to free himself but couldn't, so Lapi beat him to death with his Kaumaile (local weapon).

Today at Haumaefa village on Nanumea you can still see the 'knee-prints' of Tulapoupou in the pool of water.

Tabon Te-naa ne

sao ei a Tino

The story of how the people of Nui escaped death because of the big rocks at Tabon Te-naa.

The story began when a famous fisherman named Kake went fishing. He took a scooping net to catch some fish. Whilst fishing he heard a voice whispering 'Ke tu te vae o Upolu' which means 'Upolu wants to land on the island' (Upolu is the name of a spirit/giant).

A few minutes later he heard the voice again. Then he noticed a big giant and he knew that the giant was coming to attack his island. So he broke the stick of the scooping net and sharpened it into a spear. He saw the giant and he threw the spear at him and it struck the giant's eyes. The giant fell back into the water and wiggled like a fish until he ended up in Tonga, where he died.

The Tongan people saw their giant lying dead. They searched for the place where he was killed by pulling out the spear and 'calling' the island. The place could only be identified when the spear came out of the body. Nui was identified so the Tongans prepared weapons and canoes and left for Nui.

On reaching the island, they approached the islet called Telikiai but they stopped because they saw what they thought were giants getting ready to attack. So they fled back to Tonga. But the giants that had scared the Tongans were really only the rocks on the islet. So the people of Nui escaped death because of the rocks of Tabon Te-naa.

Sativaitupu

The story of a fresh-water well on Nukufetau.

This is the story of the well of fresh water called Sativaitupu. It is thought of as a tribute to the skill of an entertainer called Kaile.

There was once a man called Sativaitupu from Vaitupu who had never laughed in his life. He travelled through the island group challenging the leading jesters to make him laugh and was undefeated until he came to Nukufetau.

On Nukufetau was a man called Kaile. Kaile amused Sativaitupu so much that at last he laughed and in doing so he vomited a vast amount of fresh water into the earth, thus supplying the well, which was named after him. These days the well can be found on one of the islets called Fale on the island of Nukufetau.

Te tala o te Felo

The story of how 'te felo' plants got to Nanumaga.

Telahi was the King of fairies on the island of Nanumaga. He happened to land on Nui when he was touring the world. There, he was met by the Queen of fairies called Nei Nimoimoi.

Nei Nimoimoi and Telahi got married and lived on Nui for a while. During their wedding, Telahi found out from his wife that most of the dishes for the wedding were made from 'te felo' plants. He decided to steal some 'felo' and sneak away to his home island, Nanumaga. He did so and escaped without being caught by Nei Nimoimoi and her fairy friends.

When he reached his island, he ordered his friends to plant 'te felo'. He also told them about all the dishes that could be made from 'te felo' fruit.

Seimalata

A Story from Funafuti of a ghost called Seimalata.

A long time ago the people of Funafuti used to go to Funafala, one of the islets of the lagoon, to plant and harvest food. One day on Funafala, as the people were preparing to come back to the main island, they forgot a child and left him behind. The evil spirit called Seimalata took care of the child but when the people reached the main island they found that one of the children was missing so the parents and some brave men went back. They knew that Seimalata had kept the child so they prepared some weapons.

When they reached Funafala, they saw Seimalata and asked him about the child. The ghost told them that he was taking care of the boy but that if they were brave enough to kill him they could have him back. The brave men attacked Seimalata with burning spears. The spears struck Seimalata's ear. He fell into the sea and his knees smashed on to the rocks where he stuck. His knees formed a deep hole at the end of Funafala that can still be seen today.

Te akau piki

The legend of the 'joined coral' existing in the lagoon at Vaitupu.

Two sisters travelled to Elisefou to collect stones for the 'umu' (an earth fire used for cooking). Elisefou was across the lagoon from the main village so the sisters went by canoe.

They went ashore and cut the leaves from the coconut to make two baskets. They filled up the baskets with umu stones and tied the baskets to their backs with 'vene' (a woven strip made from coconut leaves) and carried them to the canoe.

They paddled back across the lagoon but as they got to the middle a strong wind blew up and they were pulled down into a whirlpool. The canoe broke into pieces and they were both drowned.

When you go to Vaitupu today you can see two big stones sticking to the coral. These 'joined corals' are said to be the two sisters that drowned.

Elekana

The story of the first deacon to bring the Gospel to Nukulaelae.

In the olden days (before 1860) the people of Nukulaelae were contentedly living their traditional life and honouring their spirits. In 1861, Christianity was introduced by a Cook Island castaway called Elekana. This is the story of his arrival and that of Christianity on the island.

Just before the arrival of Elekana a woman called Kafoa is said to have prophesised his arrival. She told the people:

‘Something is coming from beyond the horizon. When it comes it will be good for each and all of us to listen and to take it into our hearts. But as for the idols and magic – something will happen to them’.

Then in 1861, Elekana, a man from Manihiki in the Cook Islands was washed ashore at Nukulaelae. He had left his home with six men, two women and a child on a voyage to Rakahanga when a storm broke out. They drifted for about eight weeks until they finally landed at Nukulaelae with only 5 of them surviving.

One day a man named Mose saw clothes hanging up to dry on branches of a tree at a place called Matamoto on the islet of Vaiafua. On reaching the place he found five men lying on the beach under the shade of the trees. They were extremely weak. Without hesitation Mose climbed up a tree and cut down some young coconuts. He served these to the travellers and told them to wait whilst he went to inform the ‘aliki’ (chief) and to get canoes to take them to the main settlement.

After telling the people and the ‘aliki’, four people were sent to collect the strangers. At Motutala, the main settlement, the leader of the group and the deacon discovered that no mission had reached Nukulaelae, so he proceeded to instruct the people about Christianity and God.

On Nukulaelae island, Elekana’s monument has been erected in remembrance of the arrival of Christianity on Nukulaelae.

Te tala kia Kapui

The story of Kapui and how the people of Niutao converted to Christianity.

After 1870 with the arrival of missionaries, most of the people of Niutao had accepted Christianity but one family did not accept the Gospel. This family led by a man called Galiga continued to worship in the old way and in defiance of a ban on nakedness refused to wear a skirt or lavalava when swimming in the lagoon.

Several times the chiefs and pastors summoned Galiga and his family to discuss their behaviour but they refused to come. A fine of 3,000 coconuts was imposed on them but they refused to pay it. Eventually the kaupule decided to send one of their number, Kapui to plead with Galiga to obey the rules. As he entered Galiga's house, a man called Kaisami threw a spear (katipopuki) at him, which pierced his stomach.

About a week later Kapui's brother, Meauke arrived from Nui. Hearing of the incident he prepared to fight Galiga. Although, according to legend only 4 feet tall, Meauke was a strong healthy man. Kapui however did not approve of violence and ordered Meauke not to fight and to allow him to die in the name of Jesus Christ. Meauke agreed and Kapui died three weeks after being speared. Today Kapui's family commemorate his death every Easter.

Part 2: Questions and Activities



Laga o Tuli o Tulapoupou

Tali a fesili Konei (*Answer the following questions*)

1. Ne vau mai fea a te fua vaka tenei? *Where did the fleet of canoes come from?*
2. Koai te igoa o te toa o Tonga? *What was the name of the Tongan giant?*
3. Koai a Lapi? *Who was Lapi?*
4. Neaa pati kola e tau o fai ne Lapi koi tuai a ia o pei ne Tulapoupou ki lalo? *What was Lapi told to shout out when Tulapoupou was about to throw him down?*
5. Sea te igoa o te mea tau a Lapi tela ne ta Kiei te toa o Tonga? *What is the name of the weapon with which Lapi killed the Tongan giant?*

Other Activities

- Faka Koniseti a te tala tenei, i otou potukau. *In small groups develop a role-play of the story and present it to the rest of the class.*
- Draw a storyboard (series of pictures) that describes this story. *Lomi ne ata I vaega mai te tala Kola e fakamatala ne latuu a te tala.*
- Use a map of Tuvalu and circle the island of Nanumea. Use a map of the Pacific to locate the island of Tonga. In which direction did the Tongan warriors travel to get to Nanumea?
- Draw a picture of the weapon used by Lapi. *Lomi te ata o te meataua Lapi.*
- True or False? Sao me Se?
 1. Haumaefa is the name of the islet in Nanumea. _____
Haumaefa se motu o Nanumea. _____
 2. The warriors from Tonga came by aeroplanes to Nanumea. _____
Ate Kautau mai Tonga ne aumai i vakalele Ki Nanumea. _____
 3. Tefolaha was the name of another giant from Nanumea. _____
A Tefolaha se toa (mafi) mai Nanumea. _____

Tabon Te-naa Ne sao ei Tino Nui

Tali a fesili Konei (*Answer the following questions*)

- 1 Kooi te igoa o te tagata takutakua I te faika? *What is the name of the famous fisherman?*
- 2 Sea te mea ne fakaoga ne te tagata faika mo ana faika? *What did the fisherman use for fishing?*
 - a. Tili (*fishing net*)
 - b. Taetae (*scooping net*)
- 3 Sea te mea ne lavea ne te tagata faika? *What did the fisherman see when he was fishing?*
- 4 Koi te igoa o te motu o Nui tela ne sae i ei a vaka o te Kau Tonga. *Name the islet on which the Tongans landed.*
- 5 Nea mea ne lavea ne tino Tonga Kae e leake nei me ne tino? *What did the Tongans see when they approached the islet?*

Other Activities

- Faka Koniseti a te tala tenei, i otou potukau. *In small groups develop a role-play of the story and present it to the rest of the class.*
- Draw a storyboard (series of pictures) that describes this story. *Lomi ne ata I vaega mai te tala Kola e fakamatala ne latuu a te tala.*
- Lomi a te taetae. Fakamatala a te aoga o te taetae o tusi ne fuaiupu e lua Kiai. *Draw a scooping net. Write two sentences to describe how to use a scooping net.*
- Galue mo se mape. *Map work.*

Sala a Tonga mo Tuvalu i luga i te mape. Koi e pili Ki te ekueta, Ko Tuvalu me Ko Tonga? *Find Tonga and Tuvalu on the map. Which is closer to the equator? Tuvalu or Tonga?*
- Tusi Ki lalo a tino Kola e Kau i te tala Kae tusi se fuaiupu e tasi o fakamatala a tusaga o tino takitokotasi. *Make a list of the characters in the story and write a sentence on what they did in the story.*

Sativaitupu

Tali a fesili Konei (*Answer the following questions*)

- 1 Kaia ne fano iei a te tagata tenei ki fenua katoa? *Why did this man visit all the islands?*
- 2 Kooi te fenua tenei ne nofo iei te tagata tenei? *On which island did the man stay?*
- 3 Sea te meaalofo a te tagata tenei ne tuku ki tino ote fenua? *What was his present to the people of the island?*
- 4 Seaa tau fakatau, mata e aoga te meaalofo a te tagata tenei? *Do you think this was a valuable present?*

Other Activities

- Faka Koniseti a te tala tenei, i otou potukau. *In small groups develop a role-play of the story and present it to the rest of the class.*
- Draw a storyboard (series of pictures) that describes this story. *Lomi ne ata I vaega mai te tala Kola e fakamatala ne latuu a te tala.*
- True or False? Sao me Se?
 1. Fale is one of the islets of Vaitupu. _____
Fale Ko te motu mai Vaitupu. _____
 2. Sativaitupu is a fresh-water well on the island of Nanumaga. _____
Sativaitupu se igoa o te vai-keli i Nanumaga. _____
 3. Kaile successfully amused Sativaitupu so that he laughed. _____
Kaile ne fai neia Sativaitupu Ke Kata. _____

Te tala o te Felo

Tali a fesili Konei (*Answer the following questions*)

- 1 Kooi te fenua ne ola muamua ei te lakau ko te Felo? *On which island was the first felo plant?*
- 2 Telahi se tupu o aitu, Ko ai tona fenua? *Which island did King Telahi come from?*
- 3 Kooi a Nei Nimoimoi? *Who was Nei Nimoimoi?*
- 4 Kaia ne nofo leva iei a Telahi i luga i Nui? *Why did Telahi stay longer on the island of Nui?*
- 5 Kaia ne mafaufau a Telahi Ke Kaisoa ne ia ne fuaga o felo o tele muni mo ia Ki tena fenua o Nanumaga? *Why did Telahi decide to steal some felo fruit and sneak away to his home island?*
- 6 Taku mai ne meakai e iloa ne Koe e faite mai te fuaga Ko te felo i aso nei. *Name some dishes that you can make from Te Felo.*

Other Activities

- Faka Koniseti a te tala tenei, i otou potukau. *In small groups develop a role-play of the story and present it to the rest of the class.*
- Draw a storyboard (series of pictures) that describes this story. *Lomi ne ata I vaega mai te tala Kola e fakamatala ne latuu a te tala.*
- Tusi o fakamatala a te faiga o te meakai Ko te fakasakava felo. *Write down the steps involved in preparing a local dish called 'fakasakava felo'.*
- Faite se sasa me se fakanau I te faiga o te tagana felo. *Compose a sasa or chant about making a 'tagana felo'.*
- Tusi mai se isi aoga o te lakau tenei Ko te felo. *Write down any other ways of using the felo tree.*
- Lomi te ata o te lakau tenei Ko te felo. Fakamatala tau ata Ki ne fuaiupu e lua. *Draw the felo tree. Write two sentences about your picture.*
- Galue Ki mape. *Map work*
 1. Sala a Nui mo Nanumaga i luga i te mape o Tuvalu. *Find Nui and Nanumaga on the map of Tuvalu.*
 2. Fakaoga te lula mo fua te mao o fenua Konei e lua. Tusi mai me fia te la mao. *Using the scale and a ruler, measure the distance between them.*

Seimalata

Tali a fesili Konei (*Answer the following questions*)

- 1 Kaiaa e olo sale ei a tino ki Funafala? *Why did the people go to Funafala?*
- 2 Sea te mea ne iloa ne te Kau Malaga i te okoga Ki uta i te fenua? *What did the people find out when they reached the main island?*
- 3 Kaia ne tiaki ei ne latou te tamaliki? *Why was the child left behind?*
- 4 Kooi kola ne kookou tasi mo te tamaliki tagata tela ne tiakina? *Who kept the boy who was left on the island?*
- 5 I te faiga o te taua, koi ne fano mo ia te manumalo? *Who finally won the fight?*
- 6 Kaia ne fakaigoa ei te mata o Funafala kia malata? *Why is the end of Funafala called Malata?*

Other Activities

- Faka Koniseti a te tala tenei, i otou potukau. *In small groups develop a role-play of the story and present it to the rest of the class.*
- Draw a storyboard (series of pictures) that describes this story. *Lomi ne ata I vaega mai te tala Kola e fakamatala ne latuu a te tala.*
- Use a map of Funafuti to locate the islet of Funafala. Is Funafala bigger or smaller than Fualopa?

Te akau piki

Tali a fesili Konei (*Answer the following questions*)

- 1 Ne faimalaga ki fea tautaina nei? *Where did the two sisters go?*
- 2 Ne faimalaga i tea a? *How did they get there?*
- 3 Ne olo oa tautaina nei? *Why did they go there?*
- 4 Ne ave pefea la fatu kit e vaka? *How did they carry their full baskets to the canoe?*
- 5 Sea te fakalavelave ne tupu kia laua I te la fokiga? *What happened to them on their way back across the lagoon?*
- 6 Sea te mea e matea ne Koe i aso nei i loto i te namo o Vaitupu? *What would you see now when you go to that place in Vaitupu?*

Other Activities

- Faka Koniseti a te tala tenei, i otou potukau. *In small groups develop a role-play of the story and present it to the rest of the class.*
- Draw a storyboard (series of pictures) that describes this story. *Lomi ne ata I vaega mai te tala Kola e fakamatala ne latuu a te tala.*
- Galue Ki mape (*Map work*)

Tamaliki Ke faulu a mea Konei Ki luga I te ata o Vaitupu: (*Students sketch the island of Vaitupu and mark the following on the map*)

1. namo (*The lagoon*)
2. Motufuoa
3. Elisefou
4. te fakai (*Village settlement*)

Koai a fenua I loto I Tuvalu e pili Ki Vaitupu? (*Which islands in Tuvalu are closest to Vaitupu?*)

Elekana

Tali a fesili Konei (*Answer the following questions*)

- 1 Koai ne aumai muamua ne ia a te tala lei ki Nukulaelae? *Who was the first person to introduce Christianity to Nukulaelae?*
- 2 Kooi tona fenua? *Where was he from?*
- 3 I te tausaga e fia ne oko ei Elekana ki Nukulaelae? *In what year did Elekana land in Nukulaelae?*
- 4 Ne oko pefea a ia ki Nukulaelae? *How did he reach Nukulaelae?*
- 5 E tokofia a tino ne olo i te malaga mai Manihiki ki Rakahaga? *How many people went on the voyage from manihiki to Rakahaga?*
- 6 Kooi Mose? *Who was Mose?*
- 7 Kooi te igoa o te koga koga i te motu Ko Vaiafua tela ne nofo i ei a Elekana mo ana tagata? *Name the place on the islet of Vaiafua where Elekana and his men landed?*
- 8 Kooi ne fakasaoloto ne ia a tino konei ke omai ki te fenua? *Who gave permission for the strangers to come to the main island?*
- 9 Kooi ne valo ne ia te oko mai o te tala lei ia Iesu ki Nukulaelae? *Who prophesised about the coming of Christianity to Nukulaelae?*

Other Activities

- Faka Koniseti a te tala tenei, i otou potukau. *In small groups develop a role-play of the story and present it to the rest of the class.*
- Draw a storyboard (series of pictures) that describes this story. *Lomi ne ata I vaega mai te tala Kola e fakamatala ne latuu a te tala.*
- How you would feel if you were drifting in the ocean for a long time? Write a journal to explain your feelings.
- Cloze exercise (English exercise): insert the missing words.
 1. Elekana and his men drifted for about _____ weeks in the ocean.
 2. _____ is the main settlement on the island of Nukulaelae.
 3. Manihiki is one of the islands in the _____ Islands.

Te tala kia Kapui

Tali a fesili Konei (*Answer the following questions*)

1. Who rejected the arrival of the missionaries? *Koai ne se talia neia te tala-lei?*
2. What is the punishment given to the person who goes against the chief's words? *Nea a fakasalaga Ki tino Kola a teke Ki te fakatonuga o te aliki?*
3. Describe how Kapui died. *E mate pefea a Kapui? (Fakamatala fakalei)*

Other Activities

- Faka Koniseti a te tala tenei, i otou potukau. *In small groups develop a role-play of the story and present it to the rest of the class.*
- Draw a storyboard (series of pictures) that describes this story. *Lomi ne ata I vaega mai te tala Kola e fakamatala ne latuu a te tala.*

- Cloze Exercise (English exercise): insert the correct words in the spaces:

Several times the chiefs and pastors _____ Galiga and his family to _____ their behaviour but they _____ to come. A fine of 3,000 coconuts was _____ on them but they refused to _____ it. Eventually the kaupule _____ to send one of their number, Kapui to _____ with Galiga to _____ the rules.

decided
discuss
imposed
obey
pay
plead
refused
summoned