



# A Family Newsletter

*Greetings, Family!*

In science class, we are about to begin a Physical Science unit called Energy and Matter. During this time, your child will learn about how a thermometer works, the differences among solids, liquids, and gases, and the parts of an atom. Students also will learn how to grow crystals and a simple way to make ice cream in a bag.

Ordinary things in and around your home can make science interesting and real for your child. Questions that your child could have in connection with this unit might be: Why does the outside of a juice box sometimes have drops of water on it? What does a refrigerator do? Is our home insulated? How much calcium is in our cereal? You can have your child look in magazines or newspapers, and watch the news, for stories related to energy and basic chemistry.

For the hands-on activities in this module, we are collecting the items listed below. Can you donate any of these items? If so, we need to receive your donated materials by \_\_\_\_\_.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> food to cook in solar cookers<br>(grated cheese or chocolate and<br>crackers) | <input type="checkbox"/> sugar  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> generic O-shaped cereal   | <input type="checkbox"/> vanilla extract  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2-L soda bottle with cap,<br>empty and washed out                             | <input type="checkbox"/> insulation materials, such as<br>newspaper, plastic bubble wrap,<br>foam packing peanuts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> skim milk   | <input type="checkbox"/> shoe boxes   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> clear plastic "take out" food<br>containers  |

Finally, we could use your help in the classroom. Do you or other family members have a particular interest or special experience with this topic? Would you be able to help with activities? If so, please fill out the form below and have your student return it to class.

Thank you very much for your help!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Family Newsletter  
Energy and Matter

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_