

LETTER TO PARENTS

Cut here and paste onto school letterhead before making copies.

SCIENCE NEWS

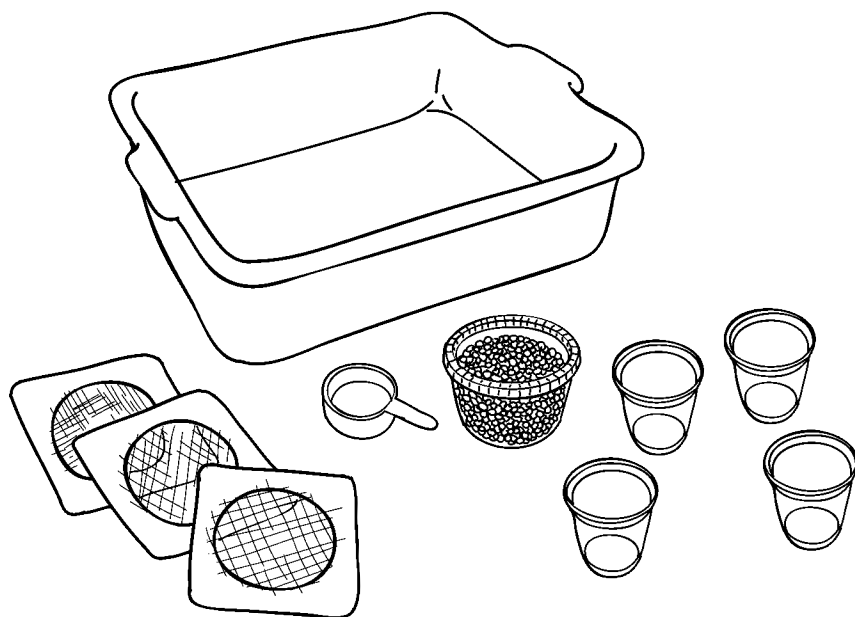
Dear Parents,

Our class is beginning a scientific study of solids and liquids. We will observe the properties of many solids and liquids, comparing how different solids and liquids are alike and how they are different, organize the results of our inquiries, and communicate both orally and in writing the things we discover. These processes (observing, communicating, comparing, and organizing) are the basic thinking processes students need at this age to develop a scientific understanding of the world around them.

Your child may ask you for help finding solids and liquids at home. You'll want to discuss and compare the different characteristics of those you find. (For example, how are salt and sugar the same? How are they different?) You may find yourself observing what happens when solids and liquids are put together. Making lemonade or salad dressing can provide interesting observations when solids and liquids are mixed. Watching an ice cube melt is a way to observe a solid change to a liquid.

We're looking forward to lots of fun and lots of learning as we explore a world full of solids and liquids!

Sincerely,



Name _____

Date _____

HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION
INVESTIGATION 1: SOLIDS

Play “I spy a solid” with someone at home. These are some of the words we have been using in class to describe solids. Next to each word, draw or write the name of the solid you spied that matches the word. Add any other properties of solids that you spied.

“I spy a solid that is...”	
flexible	rigid
smooth	rough
soft	transparent
flat	pointed

Name _____

Date _____

HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION

INVESTIGATION 2: LIQUIDS

Draw the bottle here.

This liquid is called

Circle the properties of the liquid.

- transparent
- translucent
- bubbly
- viscous
- foamy
- has color

Name _____

Date _____

HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION
INVESTIGATION 3: BITS AND PIECES

Soak, Slide, or Pile Up?

Compare what happens when you drop a spoonful of different materials on a paper towel. You might try water, rice, milk, flour, cornmeal, or dry beans. Then try the same materials on a different surface, such as plastic wrap or foil.

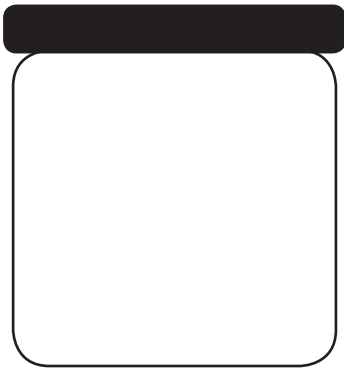
What did you observe?

Material	On paper towel	On other surface	Solid or liquid
Water			
Milk			

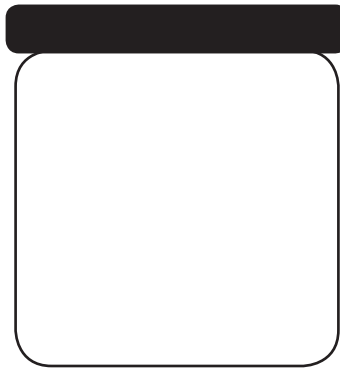
HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION**INVESTIGATION 4: SOLIDS AND LIQUIDS WITH WATER****Scientific Salad Dressing**

Cooks are chemists! Cooks investigate solids, liquids, and mixtures all the time. Make some tasty salad dressing to investigate what happens when solids and liquids are mixed.

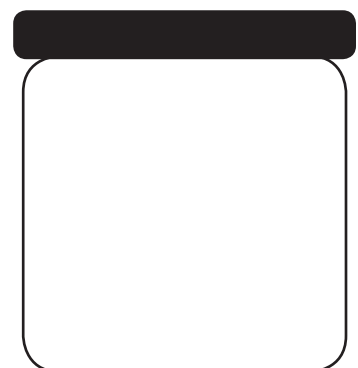
You will need a plastic container with a lid, salt, oil, pepper, vinegar, and a spice such as dried rosemary, tarragon, oregano, or basil.



1. Add $\frac{1}{3}$ cup of vinegar to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of oil. Draw your observations.



2. Put on the lid and shake it up. Draw your observations.



3. Let it sit for 5 minutes. Draw your

4. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of salt and shake. What happens?

5. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of pepper and shake. What happens?

6. Add _____ teaspoon of _____ Shake. What happens?

Now you can try your salad dressing on salad. How does it taste?