

LETTER FOR ENERGY MODULE

Hello Students, Teachers, and Families,

To facilitate science teaching and learning during school closures, the FOSS team has provided additional Home/School Connections on the FOSS website <https://www.fossweb.com>. Students and families gain access to resources on FOSSweb through the class pages set up by the teacher. The teachers can leave notes on the class pages for students. Students can read those notes with assignment instructions from the teacher when they sign in to FOSSweb. Note that teachers may, instead, send FOSSweb assignments to students through other established parent communication apps or emails.

The new Home/School Connections for each module or course are active investigations that can be conducted at home (inside or outdoors), online readings, or online multimedia experiences including research. For elementary grades, there are also math problems related to the science. Most of these activities are part of the existing module or course that the students are learning, now formatted for students to access at home.

The teacher will decide which of the suggested activities are appropriate for students based on the classroom science experiences students have had through the year. Please refer to the teacher's communications home for specific expectations for assignments. The teacher may assign *FOSS Science Resources* readings, videos, and multimedia from investigations in the module or course.

For Students and Families: To sign in to FOSSweb, use the student user name and password provided by your teacher. Here's a short video to get you started on FOSSweb

For Student Sign in Video: <https://youtu.be/Fcfjbt7Li2k>

For FOSSweb help: <https://www.fossweb.com/student-parent-help>

Preview the **Module/Course Summary** from the Student Page. The **Module Overview** is available to download as a PDF. The first few pages of the Overview will help to set the context for the Home/School Connections.

For Teachers: For help in setting up and using Class Pages, use the Walk-through Videos on FOSSweb: <https://www.fossweb.com/fossweb-walkthrough-videos>

Visit the Home/School Connection for each module or course you teach, select the specific assignments that will be most relevant to your students at this point in instruction. Communicate with families about which content you are assigning through the Class Pages Notes on FOSSweb or through any other established parent communication channel your school has in place.

Tech support on FOSSweb: <https://www.fossweb.com/contact-us#jotform>

Together we will continue to make progress in science teaching and learning during school closures. Now, more than ever, we appreciate the role that science plays in our lives, and how important it is for citizens of all ages to understand and act based on scientific evidence.

Sincerely, The FOSS Team at the Lawrence Hall of Science

HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION—WEEK 1, A

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Investigation 1: Energy and Circuits

Survey the different uses of electricity in your home.

Suggested procedure

Observe your household for a few days. Take notes on energy used.

How many lights do you have?

Are lights left on when leaving the room or shut off?

Which appliances are used the most and the least?

How many devices are left on when not used?

How often do you open up the refrigerator?

How many gadgets at home require frequent recharging?

How many items at home are always plugged in and operating?

Do you have any devices that are powered by solar cells?

Research energy conserving methods. Are there any suggestions you can make to the household to conserve energy and save money? Share with the household members. Record your ideas in your science notebook.

HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION—WEEK 1, B

Investigation 1: Energy and Circuits Investigate Flashlights

Suggested procedure

Survey the number of flashlights you have in your household.
Are they working?

Open them up and check the batteries.

- What orientation are the batteries in?
- What size batteries are they?

Share your findings with an adult and write a summary in your science notebook.

HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION—WEEK 1, C

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Investigation 1: Energy and Circuits Research Solar Companies

Suggested procedure

Find out if there are local solar technology companies in your area. Do many of your local schools, business and homes have solar panels?

Read the *FOSS Science Resources: Energy* ebook and/or audio book article "Engineering a Solar Lighting System."

Research what this solar company is doing.

<https://wecaresolar.org/impact/stories/>

<https://wecaresolar.org/media/videos/>

Share what you learn with a friends or family members and write a summary in your science notebook.

Notes:

If you haven't already, check out *FOSS Science Resources: Energy* ebook and/or audio books article, "Energy Sources."