

LETTER TO FAMILY

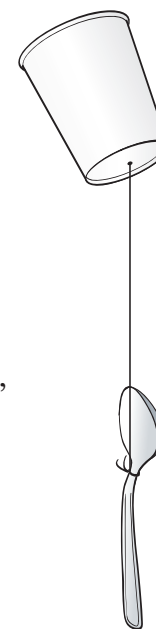
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Cut here and paste onto school letterhead before making copies.

Science News

Dear Family,

Our class is beginning a study of sound and light. Students will be looking for evidence that sound comes from vibrations. They will be identifying different kinds of sounds and the information those sounds convey. They will be exploring a number of musical instruments to find out how to change volume (how loud and soft a sound is) and pitch (how low or high a sound is). Through their firsthand explorations with a xylophone, one-string guitar, table bass fiddle, spoon gong, and kalimba, students will explore how to manipulate sound and develop simple models for how sound travels from a source to the receiver.



Then, we will explore light and find out what happens when materials with different properties are placed in a beam of light, either a flashlight or sunlight. Some materials block all of the light and others block some of the light. We can use these materials to create interesting shadows. Other materials are transparent and allow light to shine through. We will also work with mirrors to see how light reflects from one place to another.

You can help your child learn more about sound and light at home with the Home/School Connections. If you have a musical instrument at home, work with your child to find out what vibrates to make sounds and how those sounds can be changed. Use a lamp and screen to create shadow puppets, or go outdoors on a sunny day and create shadow challenges to solve.

We are looking forward to exploring science and engineering practices with sound and light. You can get more information on this module by going to www.FOSSweb.com.

Sincerely,

