

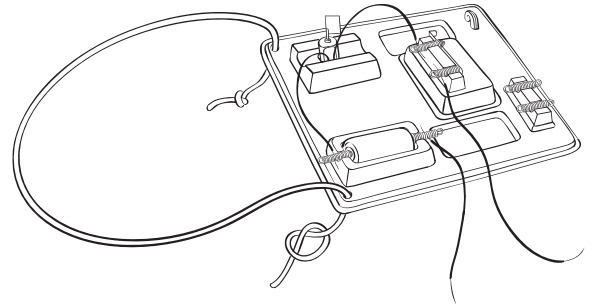
LETTER TO FAMILY

Cut here and glue letter onto school letterhead before making copies.

Science News

Dear Family,

Our class is beginning a new science unit using the **FOSS Energy Module**. We will investigate energy, build electric circuits powered by D-cells (flashlight batteries), and explore electromagnetism, light, collisions, and waves. All our experiences will build an understanding that energy is evident when there is motion, electric current, sound, light, or heat, and that energy can travel from place to place.



You can increase your child's understanding and interest in energy and electromagnetism by asking him or her to talk about the investigations we are doing at school. Also, watch for Home/School Connection sheets that I will be sending home from time to time. These activities describe ways the whole family can look more closely at energy, energy conservation, and the uses of electricity and magnetism around your home. You may find energy at work running different appliances, magnets holding notes on the refrigerator or securing cabinets doors, and electromagnets in motors and speakers. It can be lots of fun to make inventories of magnets and electric appliances.

We will also be finding out about alternative sources of energy such as wind power and solar power. Find a building or park in your community that uses solar panels to generate electricity and take a field trip to the site with your child.

One thing we will stress in our study of energy is safety. You may want to review your home safety rules, such as never put any object other than a certified plug into wall sockets.

We are looking forward to many weeks of exciting investigations with energy and electromagnetism. If you have any questions or comments, or have expertise you would like to share with the class, please drop me a note. You can get more information on this module by going to www.FOSSweb.com.

Sincerely,