

LETTER TO FAMILY

Science News

Dear Family,

Our class is beginning a study of materials and motion. As materials engineers, we will be studying the properties of different kinds of wood, paper, and fabric. We'll investigate how wood and paper can be processed into products. We'll sand wood, make simulated plywood and particleboard, recycle paper, and make papier-mâché bowls. We will study how fabrics are made and discover how they interact with water. We will focus on the reuse and recycling of materials to conserve natural resources. We will be setting up a recycling center in our classroom. You can enrich this experience by having your child participate in the recycling of paper, metal, glass, and plastic at home.

Help us by gathering wood scraps and interesting and colorful paper and fabric discards for making our structure design project. Please send wood, paper, and fabric scraps by _____ (date).

We will also investigate motion—how to get something to start moving and make it stop. We will change the strength of pushes and pulls on rolling objects to see how that affects speed, and look at how we can modify direction of moving objects to meet goals.

After we do the various activities in class, your child may ask you to help him or her do things at home, such as temporarily label objects with “paper” or “wood”; waterlog a stick; take boxes apart; or make collages, envelopes, drinking cups, or paper hats. You can get more information on this module by going to www.FOSSweb.com.

Sincerely,

