
Science News

Dear Family,

Our class is beginning a study of materials. We will be studying the properties of wood, paper, fabric, soil, and rock and how different materials are alike and how they are different. 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. For several weeks, we will be materials scientists.

During our materials study, 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.

We can also use help gathering wood scraps and interesting and colorful paper and fabric discards for making our final projects. Please send wood, paper, and fabric scraps by _____ (date).

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 help by making a few simple materials available and letting your child be creative.

Sincerely,

