

Greetings, Family!

All living things have parts that help them carry on the processes they need to survive. In our next science unit, "How Living Things Function," children will be learning about the parts of plants and how these parts work together to keep plants alive. They'll also explore different kinds of animals and how scientists can study animals that lived long ago. Finally, they will learn about plant and animal life cycles, and discover the similarities and differences between individuals in the same species.

You can make science come alive for your child by discussing and observing plants and animals in and around your home and in your town. Take your student to the local zoo. Go on a neighborhood nature walk with your child; make observations on the plants and animals near your home. Let your child care for the plants and pets in your home. Together, watch and discuss some of the many nature programs that appear on television.

For this unit, we'll be doing many hands-on activities about plants, their structures, and their environment, using the materials listed below. Can you donate any of these items? If so, we need to receive your donated materials by _____.

- potting soil
- pipe cleaners
- different kinds of seeds
- plastic sandwich bags
- plastic deli containers with lids
- different kinds of houseplants

Finally, we could use your help in the classroom. Do you or other family members have any particular interest or special experience with this topic? Would you be able to help with the activities? If so, please fill out the form below and have your student return it to class.

Thank you very much for your help!

Family Newsletter Unit A, How Living Things Function

Parent: _____ Student: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____