

# Greetings, Family!

Different ecosystems provide homes for very different living things. Each living thing has body parts and behaviors that help it survive. In this unit, "Survival of Living Things," we will be learning about what helps organisms survive. We will also look at how changes in an environment can help or harm living things.

You can make science come alive for your student in many ways. There are different ecosystems all around you, no matter where you live. Point out some of the ecosystems found in California, such as deserts, oceans, or forests. Discuss what they provide for the plants and animals that live there.

For this unit, we will be doing some hands-on activities to study living things, using the materials listed below. Can you donate or loan any of these items? If so, we need to receive your items by \_\_\_\_\_.

- water bottles
- chopsticks
- hand-held strainer
- masking tape
- sunflower seeds
- salad tongs
- slotted spoon
- paper plates
- tweezers
- pliers
- shortening
- baby oil

Finally, we could also 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!

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## Family Newsletter

### Unit A, Survival of Living Things

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_