

# Greetings, Family!

All matter is made up of tiny particles carrying neutral, negative, and positive charges. In this unit, "Electricity and Magnetism," our science class will be studying electricity and how it can be safely converted into other forms of energy. Students will learn how electrical circuits produce the electrical energy that powers the appliances in their homes and in their school. Students will also discover the properties of natural magnets and how manufactured electromagnets can be used to help people do work.

How can you bring science from the classroom into your home? Help your student identify which appliances in your home convert electricity into different forms of energy (heat, sound, light, motion, etc.). Point out how electricity does not travel perfectly from the power generator into your home. For example, an appliance such as a reading lamp will waste some of its electrical energy as heat.

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

- balloon
- plastic wrap
- insulated wire
- string
- battery (size D)
- 1.3 volt battery
- flashlight bulb
- wool cloth
- electrical tape
- tweezers

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 D, Electricity and Magnetism

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

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