Greetings, Family!

Energy never disappears, but it does change form. In this unit, "Energy, Motion, and Machines," our science class will be studying the different forms that energy can take and how forms of energy behave. Students will explore how magnetism and electricity work together to produce energy of motion. They will learn that forces cause objects to change their motion, and they will discover how simple machines help people do work.

How can you bring science from the classroom into your home? Have your student choose an activity from a favorite sport. Help him or her identify the changes during that activity between potential energy (stored energy) and kinetic energy (energy of motion). If you have tools in your home such as a shovel or a pry bar, point out how that particular tool puts force where you want it, or makes a force stronger, or makes an object move faster.

For this unit, we will also be doing some hands-on activities about energy and motion using the materials listed below. Can you donate any of these items? If so, we need to receive your donated materials by _____ .

- washers
- coffee cans
- small rocks
- wool
- plastic wrap
- iron or steel nail
- aluminum foil
- sponge
- wooden blocks

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 F, Energy, Motion, and Machines

Parent: _____ Student: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____