

Greetings Family!

Will the stars be out tonight? Will the weather be cloudy or clear? What causes our weather and climate? Do other planets have weather like Earth does? Our science class will answer these and other questions as we learn about weather systems, how the Sun and Moon affect Earth, and what scientists have learned about other objects in space in our next unit, "Earth in the Universe."

You can help science come alive for your student by letting him or her track tide charts and Moon phases. Help your student collect a month's worth of tide reports from a newspaper, almanac, or the Internet. Then, for each of those days, have your student draw the phase of the Moon observed. Discuss with your student if there seems to be a relationship between the tides and the phases of the Moon.

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

- small plastic containers
- nails
- paper plates
- tape
- toothpicks
- permanent markers
- tape measures
- plastic foam balls

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 these 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 D, Earth in the Universe

Parent: _____ Student: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____