



# A Family Newsletter

*Greetings, Family!*

In our next unit, Space, our science class will be studying Earth, the Moon, and the planets in our Solar System. We will explore what causes day and night, what the real story is on why Earth has seasons, and why eclipses happen—but not as often as you might expect.

You can make science come alive for your child. Your child will have assignments to go outdoors at night to observe Moon phases, look for planets, and identify constellations. Please go outdoors with your child, both for safety's sake and so you may share a special experience. You could also watch the sunrise or sunset as a family, and make up stories about the constellations. If you have friends or relatives in other countries, bring out a globe and ask your child to explain how sunrise, sunset, and the seasons are different where they live.

For the hands-on activities in this module, we are collecting the items listed below. Can you donate any of these items? If so, we need to receive your donated materials by \_\_\_\_\_.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cardboard rolls from paper towels and toilet tissue | <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars or telescope (to use with the class at a nighttime observing session) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Solar calculator (to lend for one class period)     |   |

Finally, we could use your help. Do you have any particular interest in astronomy? Do you know of local resources, such as planetarium programs or amateur astronomy clubs? If so, please complete and return the form below. I am particularly looking for adults who can help with organizing a family astronomy evening.

Thank you very much for your help!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Family Newsletter  
Space

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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