

# LETTER TO FAMILY

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*Cut here and paste onto school letterhead before making copies.*

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## Science News

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Dear Family,

Our class is beginning an earth science unit. We will be studying rocks, one of the most important earth materials. Our investigations will center on the properties of rocks and the uses of various rock sizes (pebbles, gravel, sand, silt, and clay). Students will be working extensively with materials—observing, comparing, and communicating what they learn through their firsthand experiences with earth materials. We will also be investigating different kinds of soil and comparing soils that we gather from our community. At the end of the unit, students will be introduced to natural sources of fresh and salt water.

Your child may ask for help finding a rock or two to contribute to our class rock collection. A rock from your yard or neighborhood is fine. As our study continues, your child will be learning more and more about rocks. Try to find opportunities to talk with your child about sand, gravel, soil and water, and ways people use these materials in construction (asphalt, concrete, bricks, mortar, etc.) and landscaping. This is an engaging theme for a family outing.

We're looking forward to lots of discoveries and new experiences as we explore the earth materials that can be found all around us. If you have any questions or comments, or have expertise you would like to share with the class, please let me know. You can get more information on this module by going to [www.FOSSweb.com](http://www.FOSSweb.com).

Sincerely,

