

Greetings, Family!

All living things carry out the basic processes of life. In our next unit, “The Life Processes,” students will learn how different living things are adapted to carry out these important processes. Students will begin by exploring cells—the basic units of life. They will discover that, on the microscopic level, living things share many more similarities than differences. Students will then investigate plants. They will also explore how traits are passed from one generation to the next.

How can you bring science from the classroom into your home? Watch television programs about nature together. Talk about the different kinds of houseplants in your home. Provide your student with old family photographs and have him or her observe how certain family traits are passed from generation to generation. Above all, try to get your student to recognize the similarities, not the differences, between living things.

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

- toothpicks
- index cards
- sealable plastic bags
- plastic sandwich bags
- paper towels
- different kinds of beads or buttons

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 A, The Life Processes

Parent: _____ Student: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____