

Dear Parents,

We are currently learning about Earth and Space in 1<sup>st</sup> grade science. The students will observe and record changes in objects in the sky. They will also observe, describe, compare, and sort components of soil by size, color, and texture; AND gather evidence of how rocks, soil, and water help to make useful products. The student will identify and describe a variety of natural sources of water including streams, lakes, and oceans. The student will sort and classify living and nonliving things, analyze and record examples of interdependency, and gather evidence for interdependency.

### **Key Concepts**

- Observe and record changes in objects in the sky such as the Moon, and the stars, including the Sun.
- Different types of rocks and soil differ in their observable properties such as size, texture, and color
- We can see examples in daily life of how we use products made from rocks, soil, and water.
- Water comes from many different sources including streams, lakes, and oceans.
- Sort and classify living and non-living things based upon whether or not they have basic needs and produce offspring.
- Analyze and record examples of interdependency found in various situations such as terrariums and aquariums.
- Gather evidence of interdependence among living organisms such as every transfer through food chains or animals using plants for shelter.

### **Fundamental Questions**

- How does the appearance of objects in the sky change?
- What physical properties can we use to describe, compare, and sort soil?
- What evidence can we gather that tells us how rocks, soil, and water are useful to us?
- What observable characteristics can we use to identify and describe natural sources of water?
- How can you identify if an object is living or non-living?
- What basic needs must be met for living things to survive?
- What kind of evidence can we gather about the interdependence among living things?

The 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Science Team