



Greetings,

We are starting a new science unit in class called *How Can We Find the Best Place for a Plant to Grow?* The unit leads up to a science challenge. Your child will choose the best place for plants in a schoolyard. Your child's at-home and out-of-school experiences can play an essential role in supporting the development of their own and their classmates' understanding of how the world works. As I work on planning the lessons, I would appreciate some ideas about how your child may have already experienced our new topic. Your feedback will help me incorporate their experiences into the unit.

If you can, please respond to as many of the following questions as you are comfortable answering. Rest assured that your child does not have to have relevant previous experiences to be successful with the unit.

1. Is your child familiar with growing plants, gardening, or farming? If possible, please describe your child's experiences.
2. Is your child familiar with insects and how plants are pollinated? If possible, please describe your child's experiences.
3. Is your child familiar with natural habitats that are different from the one they live in? If possible, please describe your child's experiences.

In addition to sharing your child's experiences with me, I encourage you to discuss topics related to this science unit with your child. This can help them make sense of what they are doing in school. Here are some examples of questions to ask at home:

1. Did you look at some radish seeds that sprouted in the dark? Why do you think that happened?
2. Are you designing a tool that can be used to move pollen from flower to flower? What do you think it should look like? Why do you think that?

You can learn more about this science unit at [ScienceEducation.si.edu/plantsandplaces-phenomenon](https://ScienceEducation.si.edu/plantsandplaces-phenomenon). Please feel free to ask me questions. I want to work with you to make sure your child gets the most out of this unit.

Thank you.