Greetings,

We are starting a new science unit in class called *How Do Weather and Climate Affect Our Lives?* The unit leads up to a science challenge. Your child will analyze past weather data to recommend the best time and location for a soccer tournament. 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. Has your child flown a kite before? If so, please share about their experience.

2. Has your child been to a place where the climate is different from where they live? Do they know someone who lives in a different climate? If so, please share these locations and what the climate is like there.

3. Has your child experienced or heard about severe weather with wind and/or rain? If so, please share about their experience.

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. Are you trying to figure out when it will be good weather to fly a kite? How can you figure this out?

2. Are you trying to figure out a location where it could snow in July? What are your ideas about that?

3. Are you designing a roof to protect a building from windy and rainy weather? Tell me about your roof.

You can learn more about this science unit at ScienceEducation.si.edu/climate-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.