Greetings,

We are starting a new science unit in class called *How Can We Be Ready for the Weather?* The unit leads up to a science challenge. Your child will figure out how to get ready for a full day outside. 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 the following questions and prompts. Please respond only to questions you are comfortable with. And 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 cold weather, including snow and ice and/or building a snowman?
2. Is your child familiar with checking the weather, including the temperature, in the morning before they get dressed?

In addition to sharing your child’s experiences with me, I encourage you to discuss topics related to the 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 a picture of a pole that got wet on one side but stayed dry on the other side? How do you think that happened?
2. Are you trying to figure out why a snowman melts at some times of day, but not other times? Tell me about your ideas. Why do you think that happened?

You can learn more about this science unit at [ScienceEducation.si.edu/readyfortheweather](ScienceEducation.si.edu/readyfortheweather). 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.