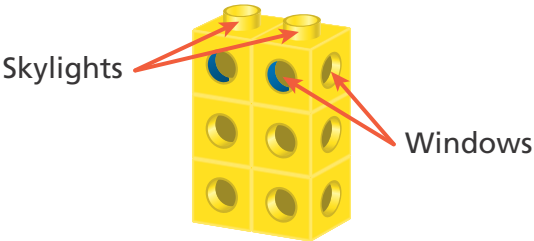NAME _____ DATE _____

About the Mathematics in This Unit

Dear Family,

Our class is starting a new mathematics unit about patterns and change called *Penny Jars and Towers*. In this unit, students learn to use tables and equations to represent various situations in which one quantity changes in relation to another quantity. They describe and compare different situations of change, and discuss the relationship between them. Throughout the unit, students will be working toward these goals:

Benchmarks/Goals	Examples
Generate a number pattern that follows a given rule and analyze features of the pattern in order to solve problems.	I started with 6 pennies in a jar. I added 4 pennies each day. Will there ever be 157 pennies in the jar?
Model the mathematics of a situation with tables and with mathematical notation, including using letters to represent unspecified quantities.	Make a table that shows how many pennies are in the jar after day 1, day 2, up to day 10. | Day	0	1	2	3	4
Number of Pennies	6	10	14	18	22	 Write an equation that shows how many pennies are in the jar on day 20.
Solve multi-step word problems using the four operations.	How many windows, including skylights, are there in a double tower with 15 floors? Skylights Windows

Please look for more information and activities about *Penny Jars and Towers* that will be sent home in the coming weeks.