SAAVAS Topic 7 School to Home Letter

Dear Family Member or Caregiver,

In the Topic “Animals”, students learn about the external structures of birds, mammals, and fish; how animals grow and change; and how animals go through a life cycle. The experiences in this topic are:

- Experience 1: Animal Structures
- Experience 2: Parents and Young
- Experience 3: Animal Life Cycles

First, in Experience 1, students compare how the external structures of different animals help them live, interact, and survive in their environment. Then, in Experience 2, they identify and compare ways young animals resemble their parents. Finally, in Experience 3, students record observations and describe the basic life cycles of a bird, mammal, and fish.

The main content TEKS covered in this topic are:

- 1.13A: Identify the external structures of different animals and compare how those structures help different animals live, move, and meet basic needs for survival.
- 1.13B: Record observations of and describe basic life cycles of animals, including a bird, a mammal, and a fish.
- 1.13CL Compare ways that young animals resemble their parents.

And the main SEPs and Recurring Themes and Concepts TEKS are:

- 1.1D: Use tools, including animal life cycles, to observe and compare.
- 1.3B: Communicate explanations and solutions individually and collaboratively in a variety of settings and formats.
- 1.5D: Examine the parts of a whole to define or model a system.
- 1.5F: Describe the relationship between structure and function of objects, organisms, and systems.

One of the best ways for students to check on their learning is to explain it to someone else. Ask your student about their class experiences and ask them to explain the content that they are learning while at school in their own words or, if relevant, in their first language.

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