

SAAVAS Topic 7 School to Home Letter

Dear Family Member or Caregiver,

In the Topic “Organisms and Environments”, students learn about how organisms interact with each other and with their environments.

The experiences in this topic are:

- Experience 1: Environments
- Experience 2: Living Things in Environments
- Experience 3: Food Chains

In Experience 1, students identify differences in environments and describe how the physical characteristics of environments support the plants and animals in an ecosystem. In Experience 2, they explain and demonstrate how some plants depend on other living things, wind, or water for pollination and seed dispersal. Finally, in Experience 3, students describe the purpose of a food-chain model, identify producers and consumers in a food chain, and then create food chains to demonstrate the dependence of animals on other living things.

The main content TEKS covered in this topic are:

- 2.12A Describe how the physical characteristics of environments, including the amount of rainfall, support plants and animals within an ecosystem.
- 2.12B Create and describe food chains identifying producers and consumers to demonstrate how animals depend on other living things.
- 2.12C Explain and demonstrate how some plants depend on other living things, wind, or water for pollination and to move their seeds around.

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

- 2.1G Develop models to represent phenomena and/or processes.
- 2.3A Develop explanations and propose solutions supported by data and models.
- 2.5A Identify and use patterns to describe phenomena.
- 2.5D Examine the parts of a whole to define or model a system.

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.