

SAAVAS Topic 1 School to Home Letter

Dear Family Member or Caregiver,

In the Topic “Matter”, students learn about and investigate properties of matter.

The experiences in this topic are:

- Experience 1: Properties of Matter
- Experience 2: Solid, Liquids and Gases
- Experience 3: Combined Materials

In Experience 1, students investigate the properties of matter, including temperature, mass, magnetism, and the ability to sink or float in water. Next, in Experience 2, students describe and classify matter as solids, liquids, or gases. They observe and record how heating or cooling can change the state of matter. Finally, in Experience 3, students learn how materials can be combined to create or modify objects. They use their knowledge of physical properties to justify the selection of materials when combining them.

The main content TEKS covered in this topic are:

- 3.6A Measure, test, and record physical properties of matter, including temperature, mass, magnetism, and the ability to sink or float in water.
- 3.6B Describe and classify samples of matter as solids, liquids, and gases and demonstrate that solids have a definite shape and that liquids and gases take the shape of their container.
- 3.6C Predict, observe, and record changes in the state of matter caused by heating or cooling in a variety of substances such as ice becoming liquid water, condensation forming on the outside of a glass, or liquid water being heated to the point of becoming water vapor gas.
- 3.6D Demonstrate that materials can be combined based on their physical properties to create or modify objects such as building a tower or adding clay to sand to make a stronger brick and justify the selection of materials based on their physical properties.

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

- 3.2D Evaluate a design or object using criteria.
- 3.5B Identify and investigate cause and effect relationships to explain scientific phenomena.

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.