

SAAVAS Topic 4 School to Home Letter

Dear Family Member or Caregiver,

In the Topic “Earth and Space”, students demonstrate the orbits of Earth and the moon and model the orbits of planets around the sun and begin to understand their connection to changes in the night sky.

The experiences in this topic are:

- Experience 1: Patterns in Space
- Experience 2: Solar System

In Experience 1, students investigate the orbits of the sun, Earth, and moon. Then, in Experience 2, they list the planets in our solar system and identify their order from the sun.

The main content TEKS covered in this topic are:

- 3.9A Construct models and explain the orbits of the sun, Earth, and Moon in relation to each other.
- 3.9B Identify the order of the planets in Earth’s solar system in relation to the sun.

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

- 3.1G Develop and use models to represent phenomena, objects, and processes or design a prototype for a solution to a problem.
- 3.2A Identify basic advantages and limitations of models such as their size, properties, and materials.
- 3.5A Identify and use patterns to explain scientific phenomena or to design solutions.
- 3.5B Identify and investigate cause and effect relationships to explain scientific phenomena or analyze problems.

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.