

SAAVAS Topic 5 School to Home Letter

Dear Family Member or Caregiver,

In the Topic “Patterns on Earth”, students learn about patterns and processes on Earth and natural resources. The experiences in this topic are:

- Experience 1: Water Cycle and Weather
- Experience 2: Slow Changes on Earth
- Experience 3: Natural Resources
- Experience 4: Conservation

First, in Experience 1, they explain how the sun and the ocean interact in the water cycle and affect weather. Next, in Experience 2, they identify and model how Earth’s surface changes. Then, in Experience 3, they describe and model processes that lead to the formation of sedimentary rock and fossil fuels. Finally, in Experience 4, they explore how using natural resources impacts the environment.

The main content TEKS covered in this topic are:

- 5.10A: Explain how the Sun and the ocean interact in the water cycle and affect weather.
- 5.10B: Model and describe the processes that led to the formation of sedimentary rocks and fossil fuels.
- 5.10C: Model and identify how changes to Earth’s surface by wind, water, or ice result in the formation of landforms, including deltas, canyons, and sand dunes.
- 5.11A: Design and explain solutions such as conservation, recycling, or proper disposal to minimize environmental impact of the use of natural resources.

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

- 5.2D: Evaluate experimental and engineering designs.
- 5.5B: 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.