



# Second Grade Science

## Earth Systems

Dear Families,

Here is what your child is learning in Second Grade, during the study of Earth Systems with some specific ways you can help. Look for additional newsletters for upcoming units.

### Earth Systems

#### Students need to:

- Know that wind and water can change the shape of the land quickly or slowly.
- Know that maps show where things are located.
- Map the shapes and kinds of land and water in any area.
- Know that water is found in the ocean, rivers, lakes, and ponds.
- Know that water exists in solid and liquid form.
- Know there is always more than one possible solution to a problem, it is useful to compare and test designs.

#### Key Vocabulary

Coast: the part of the land near the sea; the edge of the land.

Condensation: water, which collects as droplets on a cold surface when humid air is in contact with it.

Erosion: the gradual destruction of something by wind, water, or other natural agents

Evaporation: the process of turning from liquid into vapor.

Freezing Point: the temperature at which a liquid turns into a solid when cooled.

Landforms: a natural feature of the earth's surface

Legend: key on a map that tells what symbols on the map are.

Liquid: a substance that flows freely but is of constant volume

Map: representation of an area of land or sea showing physical features, cities, roads, etc.

Mountains: a large natural elevation of the earth's surface rising abruptly from the surrounding level; a large steep hill.

Piedmont: a gentle slope leading from the base of mountains to a region of flat land.

Precipitation: rain, snow, sleet, or hail that falls to the ground.

Solid: firm and stable in shape; not liquid or fluid

Water Bodies: a body of water forming a geographical feature

Wind: the natural movement of the air

#### Ways FAMILIES Can Help

- Use the Discovery Education link to find more information ([see the following page for log-in information](#)).
- Practice reading thermometers record daily temperatures and look for patterns- warm/hot/cold
- Experiment with the water cycle. Put out containers of water/wet sponges and see how much evaporates each day.
- Explore a variety of landforms using Google Earth (or satellite in Google Maps) search for water bodies (lakes, oceans, rivers, etc.) and different landforms.
- Take a nature walk and look for changes (both quick and slow) made by water wind or other natural causes.
- Explore the roots of trees