U46 ACADEMIC SUCCESS FOR ALL

OFFICE OF K-12
SCIENCE & PLANETARIUM

SCIENCE PARENT NEWSLETTER

FIRST GRADE | UNIT 3 | EARTH SCIENCE

IN SCHOOL...

Students will formulate answers to questions such as “What objects are in the sky and how do they appear to move?” Students are able to observe, describe, and predict some patterns of the movement of objects in the sky. The crosscutting concepts of patterns; cause and effect; structure and function; and influence of engineering, technology, and science on society and the natural world are called out as organizing concepts for these disciplinary core ideas. In the first grade performance expectations, students are expected to demonstrate grade-appropriate proficiency in planning and carrying out investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, constructing explanations and designing solutions, and obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information. Students are expected to use these practices to demonstrate understanding of the core ideas.

STUDENTS WILL KNOW...	**STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO...**
● The sun, moon and stars appear to move across the sky in patterns. ● These patterns are predictable and teach us a lot about our universe.	● Make observations (either firsthand or from media) and collect data that can be used to make comparisons. ● Use observations (firsthand or from media) to describe patterns in the natural world in order to answer scientific questions.

AT HOME...

ASK YOUR STUDENTS...	**ENGAGE YOUR STUDENTS...**
● What objects are in the sky and how do they appear to move? ● What happens when there is no light? ● What can we learn by observing the sun, moon and stars?	● Chart the movement of the moon throughout the month. ● List your observations of the sights and sounds during the day vs. night. ● Measure the temperature of different rooms of your home throughout the day.

IN THE COMMUNITY…

- Visit the U-46 Planetarium and Observatory for a public show
- Plan a trip to the Adler Planetarium in Chicago.
- Attend a star viewing party with a local astronomy club. (Click here for local club listings)

U46 STEM EXPO...

Create a project that:

- Predicts patterns of the sun, moon or stars.
    - How do we use these patterns?
- That makes observations of different times of the year to relate the amount of daylight vs time of year.
    - How might this information be useful?