



OFFICE OF K-12 SCIENCE & PLANETARIUM

SCIENCE PARENT NEWSLETTER

FIRST GRADE

UNIT 2

LIFE SCIENCE

IN SCHOOL...

Students will develop understanding of how plants and animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs as well as how behaviors of parents and offspring help the offspring survive. The understanding is developed that young plants and animals are like, but not exactly the same as, their parents.

STUDENTS WILL KNOW...	STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plants and animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs.• Behaviors of parents and offspring help the offspring survive.• Young plants and animals are like, but not exactly the same as, their parents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use materials to design a device that solves a specific problem or a solution to a specific problem.• Read grade-appropriate texts and use media to obtain scientific information to determine patterns in the natural world.

AT HOME...

ASK YOUR STUDENTS...	ENGAGE YOUR STUDENTS...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How are parents and their children similar and different?• What are some ways plants and animals meet their needs so they can survive and grow?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plant seeds and chart their growth.• Investigate your families common traits by looking through pictures!• Search for features of living things that help them survive (i.e. turtle shells, porcupine needles etc)



OFFICE OF K-12 SCIENCE & PLANETARIUM

IN THE COMMUNITY...

- Visit your local nature center (e.g. Elgin High School Nature Trail. [Click here](#) for a map.) or forest preserve (e.g. [Cook Co Forest Preserves](#), [Kane County Forest Preserves](#), or [Dupage County Forest Preserves](#).) to look for different species of plants.
- Plan a trip to your local hardware store or flower store to view see different types of plants and flowers.
- Investigate traits of animals that help them survive.

U46 STEM EXPO...

Create a project that:

- Is a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and animals use their external parts to help them survive.