

First Grade Science News

September, 2009



Dear Parents:

In September, First Grade is beginning a study of air and weather. For the first trimester, our young scientists will be observing temperature, rainfall, wind, and clouds, and they will be recording them on a class calendar and in their weather journals. They will explore the properties of air using plastic syringes and tubing. Students will observe how air can be compressed, how air under pressure can push things around, and how air can be captured. They will communicate and compare their discoveries. These scientific thinking processes (observing, communicating, and comparing) are the fundamental thinking abilities students need at this age to understand the world around them.

In class, the students will construct devices that use air (parachutes, propellers, balloon rockets, and gliders) and devices that catch the wind (pinwheels, streamers, wind socks, kites, and whirligigs). Your child may ask for your help in making or using these devices at home.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at extension 310, or at ekolk@stjohns-es.org.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kolk
Science Teacher