



January/February Inquiry

Class News

Dear Families,

Welcome back and happy new year! We are happy to share our newest KiwiCo Kit, especially created for our students interested in paleontology, excavation and exploration! Check out:

Paleontologist Starter Kit

- Discover the ins-and-outs of a career in prehistoric exploration! Use tools to excavate bones, then assemble them into a dinosaur skeleton display. Make amazingly detailed fossil impressions with a set of mini dinosaurs, modeling clay, and plaster. Read about the geologic timescale, how fossils are formed, and the on-the-job adventures of a real paleontologist.
 - Check out NewsELA's Interactive Video [Dig into Paleontology](#) to learn what paleontologists do with their discoveries. You might also be interested in learning about how [Dinosaur Families Appeared to Live in the Arctic Year Round](#)
 - Using DiscoveryEd, find out [Why Fossils Matter](#) in this short video. Your child might also enjoy the video [Meet a Paleontologist](#), to learn more about how he/she may choose this as a future career!

Enjoy this kit on a chilly, winter day!



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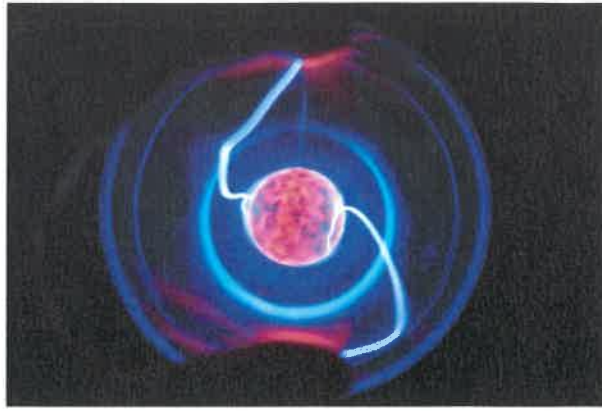
Dear Families,

Welcome back from our Christmas break! We hope that you and your child have been looking forward to your next Kiwi Co kit, because this one is a lot of fun, especially this time of year. In the winter, the sky can be very, very clear, making it much easier to identify constellations and planets. Use this kit with your child to learn more:

Exploring Stars

- Learn about the constellations you can see in the night sky, then imagine and design your own! Play with gears and use them to engineer a model system of the Sun, Earth, and Moon.
 - Use Discovery Ed to learn more about space with the short video series called Earth to Luna! In the video: [Drawings in the Sky](#), Luna will teach you and your child about the constellations and how they can be recognized. When you begin your model of the Sun, Earth and Moon, you can watch [The Superstar](#) to find out why planets orbit around the Sun. From there, you and your child can make inferences about why the Moon orbits the Earth!
 - While you engineer your model, your child may have some questions about the planets and why they revolve around the sun. They may even have questions about how the moon does the same thing around the Earth! Check out this extra experiment from NewsELA to learn more about lunar motion and eclipses: [How to Make Moon Cycles with an Orange](#)

Enjoy learning more about the cosmos with your little one!



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Dear Families,

Our newest KiwiCo kit has arrived and this month we get to take a look at a variation on the classic pendulum. In this inquiry, your child can begin to theorize the differences in harmonic vs. chaotic motion, giving them some insight into the physics they will learn in class and in the future. Check out the:

Glowing Pendulum Kit

- With this kit, you will build out a pendulum to explore chaotic motion. Watch patterns emerge on your glow board with the UV light. This kit includes a step-by-step video tutorial link, illustrated blueprint instructions, all the materials, and a special-edition Tinker Zine magazine for more fun!
 - Use this NewsELA article to [Learn How Gravity Affects the Swinging of a Pendulum](#). It includes an additional experiment!
 - Learn about the engineering and motion of a pendulum in [How to Survive a Wrecking Ball](#) from Discovery Ed. After watching this video, think about the differences between a standard pendulum (with harmonic motion) and what you have built in order to better understand chaotic motion.

Enjoy this fun activity on a cold winter day!