

Dear Family,

In my class today, we made telescopes to look at things in the sky.

Did You Know?

- Some things that we can see in the sky are clouds, raindrops, the Sun, the Moon, stars, airplanes, kites, and birds.
- Some of the things in the sky are easy to see, and some things are harder to see.
- The Moon and stars are in the sky during the day, but we can't usually see them during the day because the Sun brightens the sky.
- As the Sun sets, it begins to dip below the horizon, so that we can see the Moon and stars.
- As the Sun goes down, the sunlight disappears, making other things in the sky harder to see.

Ask Your Child:

- What did you use to make your telescope?
- Tell me some things you see in the sky during the day, at night, and during both day and night.
- Explain the difference between night and day.
- Why are some things easier to see during the day than at night?

Activities To Do With Your Child:

- Have your child use their telescope to look at the daytime sky. Try this at night, also. Have your child describe what they see. Discuss the differences. Have your child draw a picture of what they saw in the sky. Have your child bring the picture to school to share.

Vocabulary To Use With Your Child:

- **Sun** – the star that is nearest the Earth; the Earth receives heat and light from the Sun and travels around it.
- **Moon** – an object that circles around a planet; the Earth has one Moon.
- **day** – the period between the time the Sun rises and the Sun sets.
- **night** – the period between the time in which the Sun sets in the evening and the Sun rises in the morning.
- **astronomer** – a scientist who studies the universe beyond the Earth.
- **telescope** – an instrument that uses lenses and sometimes mirrors to make distant objects appear larger.