



Greetings,

We are starting a new science unit in class called *How Can We Predict When the Sky Will Be Dark?* The unit leads up to a science challenge. Your child will figure out what time of day and year students in a particular location might walk to or from school in the dark and recommend a solution to that problem. Your child's at-home and out-of-school experiences can play an essential role in supporting the development of their own and their classmates' understanding of how the world works. As I work on planning the lessons, I would appreciate some ideas about how your child may have already experienced our new topic. Your feedback will help me incorporate their experiences into the unit.

If you can, please respond to as many of the following questions as you are comfortable answering. Rest assured that your child does not have to have relevant previous experiences to be successful with the unit.

1. Does your child have experience being outside before sunrise or after sunset? What was the occasion/reason?
2. Has your child observed the Moon in the sky?

In addition to sharing your child's experiences with me, I encourage you to discuss topics related to this science unit with your child. This can help them make sense of what they are doing in school. Here are some examples of questions to ask at home:

1. Did you learn about a girl who had trouble seeing her toys outside? Why do you think this happened?
2. Did you hear a story about a girl observing the Moon? What questions did you have about it?

You can learn more about this science unit at [Science Education.si.edu/daylight-phenomenon](https://Science.Education.si.edu/daylight-phenomenon). Please feel free to ask me questions. I want to work with you to make sure your child gets the most out of this unit.

Thank you.