



GLENRIDGE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parent or Guardian,

In our current MySci Unit, What Energy Does, students are exploring the BIG concept of energy and transfer of energy. Energy has many meanings in the general public, but in science there are particular meanings that need to be explored to get to the understanding of energy and how it is transferred. These explorations include lots of experiments with moving objects; ramps and ping pong, tennis and bouncy balls. Students are also exploring and experimenting with simple machines and what they do to help make our jobs seem easier. They will then use their knowledge of energy transfer and simple machines to design a machine to solve a problem.

### School Home Connections

Chances for your child to use hammers, screwdrivers, wheelbarrows, pulleys, inclined planes or ramps are encouraged throughout this unit. Build something together:

<http://www.birdsandblooms.com/backyard-projects/diy-birdhouse/build-one-board-diy-birdhouse/>

Some suggested field trip experiences include:

Six Flags:

<https://www.sixflags.com/stlouis>

St. Louis Science Center

<http://www.slsc.org/experience-energy>

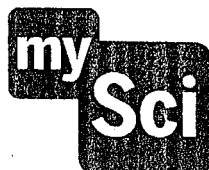
Pole Position Raceway

<http://www.academyofracing.org/school-field-trips.html>

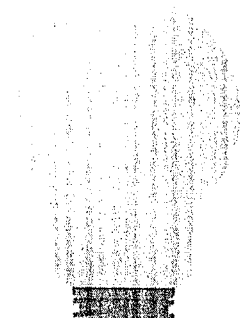
Thank you for your support in your child's science explorations!

Sincerely,

Your Child's Teacher



inspiring the next  
generation of scientists



**Educate. Inspire. Empower.**



Dear Parent or Guardian,

In our current MySci Unit, Transfer of Energy and Information, students are exploring the movements and interactions of waves and the transfer of energy. The students explore the applications of waves to humans, including sounds and light. They then explore circuits and the transfer of energy within a circuit needed to produce light and sound. Also, the students explore the use of waves and codes in communication, including activities based on computer programming. For the design challenge, students design a device to communicate over long distances.

### School Home Connections

This unit is all about the energy of waves, which are a part of our daily lives. Some activities to try with your child include:

- Take your child to a sporting event - observe or start an audience wave where successive groups of people stand and raise their arms
- Ask your child to identify examples of waves on a walk or as you eat together. Ask them: What do all waves have in common? How do waves cause objects to move? What patterns do you notice? How can waves help to communicate information?
- Play Simon Says! to see how your child represents amplitude and wavelength of waves. More information can be found on the Teach Engineering site:  
[https://www.teachengineering.org/activities/view/cub\\_soundandlight\\_lesson2\\_activity1](https://www.teachengineering.org/activities/view/cub_soundandlight_lesson2_activity1)

This is also a great time to introduce your child to computer science.

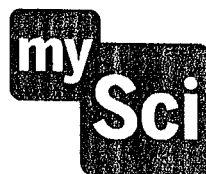
- Local resources in the area include:
  - Global Hack: <https://globalhack.org/youth/>
- Online resources for computer science:
  - Hour of Code: <https://hourofcode.com/us>
  - Code.org: <https://code.org/>
  - Girls Who Code: <https://girlswhocode.com/>
- Check out this summer iD Tech Camp at Washington University in St. Louis:  
<https://www.idtech.com/locations/missouri-summer-camps/st-louis/id-tech-washington-university/>

Thank you for your support in your child's science explorations!

Sincerely,

*Brendan Keavy*

Your Child's Teacher



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