

# Letter to Families

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Dear families,

From the sun's light filtering through our windows each day to lamps that help us read at night, light is all around us! Perhaps your child has a night-light in their room to comfort them at bedtime. Maybe your child has gazed with awe at lights as you decorate at home for a party or festival, or you may have noticed them concentrating to figure out how to turn a flashlight on and off. Many children are fascinated by the light they see and use each day. We've noticed children pointing to lights, playing with light-up toys, and exploring their shadows outside. The children's curiosity about light has inspired us to introduce a study of light.

We need your help gathering a collection of lights for the children to investigate. We'll need many different types of lights that we use at home and at school. Here's a list of suggested items, but you may also send in items that are not on the list. Please label any items you would like returned to you with your name. We'll take good care of them so we can return them to you at the end of the study.

lamps	battery-powered LED lights	light-up shoes	books and pictures that feature lights, shadows, the sun, nighttime, traffic signals, and light festivals
flashlights	lanterns	translucent materials such as color tiles	
strings of lights	colored light bulbs	light switches	
headlamps	large flashlights	lampshades	
touch lights	glow sticks	large cardboard boxes	
night-lights			

As we study light, children will develop language and literacy skills as they name and describe different types of light, math skills as they count light bulbs, and a growing sense of independence as they turn on and off lights they use every day.

## What You Can Do at Home

Try the welcome activity set up each morning for you and your child. These activities reflect what we are currently learning and investigating in the classroom and can provide ideas for what you can do at home.

Take a walk around your home and neighborhood with your child to look for different kinds of light, such as night-lights, lamps, flashlights, street lights, and stop lights. Talk with your child about the lights and how people use them.

Thank you for being a part of our study and our learning!