

Grade 6 Science
Engineering Internship Unit – Metabolism
Family Letter

Dear Families,

Your student is about to start **an Engineering Internship unit as a follow-up to the Metabolism unit we are currently finishing** in science class. This unit is part of the Amplify Science program, which is our adopted middle school science curriculum.

In regions affected by natural disasters, two populations in particular have health needs beyond what can be provided by emergency meals: patients and rescue workers. It is critical to relief efforts to be able to provide a convenient yet nutritious health bar that will provide the proper balance of protein and carbohydrates to address the metabolic needs of these target populations. **In the Metabolism Engineering Internship unit, students will take on the role of food engineer interns at the fictional “Futura Engineering” company to design recipes for a health bar that meets the needs of their target population by balancing the protein composition, carbohydrates, and glycemic index while maximizing the taste score and minimizing cost.** The **Engineering Internship** allows students to learn about engineering practices as they apply the knowledge they learned about metabolism in our current unit including how the body metabolizes proteins and carbohydrates to solve this fictional but realistic problem.

Although it may be challenging or even frustrating for students to puzzle about and figure out the solution to this engineering problem, students don’t need to have all of the answers in order to engage in questioning, investigation, data collection, and sensemaking opportunities in the instructional materials that are provided.

To get more ideas for the Phase Change Engineering Internship, you can go to the Amplify Family Resources website at amplify.com/amplify-science-family-resource-intro.

Thank you for helping to support your student in their science learning!

Your Child’s Science Teacher