

Grade 6: Metabolism Unit

Dear Families,

To facilitate remote learning in middle school science this year the SPS Science Department will be integrating our adopted science curriculum, AmplifyScience, with the **Microsoft OneNote and Class Notebook** applications which is provided to all SPS students and staff as part of Microsoft Office365. OneNote provides students with a digital online notebook that includes instructional materials from the district adopted science curriculum. Students will interact with the learning activities in the notebook for both live (synchronous) and independent (asynchronous) learning. Student can access this digital notebook through Schoology. For more information about using OneNote class notebooks in science, please refer to the [Introduction to OneNote for Families handout](#) ([click here for translated versions](#)) here and this [Introduction to OneNote for Families short video](#).

Your student is about to start **a unit called Metabolism** in science class. This unit is part of the Amplify Science program, which is the SPS adopted middle school science curriculum. We hope that the information here can help support you as you support your student with their at-home science learning.

In the Metabolism unit, students learn about how the human body's systems work together to provide cells with everything they need. As they figure out what's going on with one patient's body systems, students get familiar with the practices of science, including the specific ways that scientists talk, read, write, and collect and analyze evidence. These practices will be important as students study science throughout the year.

In order to support your student, you can help them with understanding directions, writing about their ideas, and reading articles. Students are asked to do some activities with a partner, and you can be your student's partner as they talk over questions and ideas and practice scientific arguments.

In this unit, students are investigating what's happening with a patient named Elisa, and you may wish to ask your student:

- ✓ *"What did you figure out in your science lesson today?"*
- ✓ *"How does that help you understand what's happening with Elisa's body systems?"*

Answering these questions after every lesson can help students understand more deeply and keep them interested in learning more. You can help your student solve this science mystery bit by bit throughout the unit. Much of what your student is figuring out may also be new to you, and you don't need to know the answers. We hope you can enjoy discovering new ideas along with your student. For more ideas about the **Metabolism** unit, visit amplify.com/amplify-science-family-resources-ms.

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