

Dear Parents,

This quarter our class will be studying the unit "Human Impact on Earth's Systems" which incorporates a STEM challenge. As the name indicates, STEM challenges pull from science, technology, engineering, and math standards, but they will also frequently incorporate additional subject areas as well. STEM challenges deeply engage students in hands-on problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity/innovation, working collaboratively, and building resilience and persistence in the face of frustration or failure. Beyond that, they're a ton of fun! In short, they offer a lot of bang for the buck!

The students will be designing and building a device that can separate Microplastics from sand as their culminating project. We will be testing the devices during our Marine Debris field trip on March 6, 2020. Your child may use any simple, inexpensive supplies. I've listed a few below. Please encourage your child to be creative and use common household items that are available to them such as recycled materials. If you have any materials you would like to donate, please have your child bring them in by February 7.

STEM MATERIALS WISH LIST	
USED OR RECYCLED MATERIALS	NEW CRAFT HOME & OFFICE SUPPLIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lids of any size • Plastic containers • Small boxes • Pie tins • Cardboard tubes • Spools <p>*Make sure recycled items are clean and dry! ☺</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee Filters • Toothpicks • Q-Tips • Paper or plastic plates • Paper or plastic cups • Straws • Clothespins • Popsicle Sticks • Coffee Stirrers

Timeline for Project Completion	
February 3-7	Introduction of the project
February 10-23	Design and build prototype
February 24	Prototypes are due
February 24-March 5	Test out prototype and redesign if needed
March 6	Marine Debris Field Trip
March 9-13	Art project using Microplastics

I have read these deadlines and understand when EACH part of the project is due.

Student Signature

Parent Signature