Waves Topic Teacher Masters: Table of Contents

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Dear Families,

Our class is beginning the Science Companion® Waves Unit. The Waves Unit guides students through a hands-on exploration of the science of waves in water and sound waves in the air, and encourages them to build on their natural sense of wonder and curiosity about their world. As they observe, describe, and experiment, children hone their science process skills and begin to discover the various ways waves can be produced as well as their effects on objects.

During the Waves Unit, the students will:

- Create wave patterns in water and learn that waves form in a regular pattern.
- Learn that waves require a source and a medium. For example, the source of water waves is a
 motion somewhere. The medium for waves in the ocean is water.
- Produce waves on a rope and a slinkyTM to discover the properties of waves and that waves transfer energy from place to place.
- Build models of waves using chenille wire.
- Look closely at deep and shallow water waves to recognize floating objects are moved differently by waves in deep water and shallow water.
- Explore how sound waves travel and can cause objects to move.

You and your child can explore this topic together at home by:

- Reading wave-related science books together that your child checks out from the class Science Center or the local library.
- Visiting the web site at **www.ScienceCompanion**.com to find a list of recommended web sites about waves and their properties.
- Working together on the Family Link activities that will be sent home. Your child may also
 want to repeat and vary some of the activities we do in class, as well as explain what they
 discovered and learned.

The Waves unit will encourage students to develop a new understanding of waves and their behavior. We hope the children will bring their discoveries and enthusiasm home, inviting you to learn alongside them—asking questions, discussing their work, and sharing their adventures in science.

Sincerely,

Name:	Date:

Family Link with Science—Home Activity

Waves in the Bathtub

Directions:

Explore some ways to produce waves in the bathtub.

1. Draw or describe a motion you used to create them.

2. Draw or describe what they looked like.

This activity is optional.

Name:	Date: _	

Family Link with Science—Home Activity

Surfers in Waves

Directions:

Search the Internet for a video showing surfers. The video can show surfers riding waves, waiting to ride waves, or both:

1. If your video has surfers riding waves in it, describe what happens to the surfers? What effect do the waves have on the surfers.

2. If your video has surfers waiting to catch waves, what are they waiting for? Why don't they try to catch one right away?

This activity is optional.