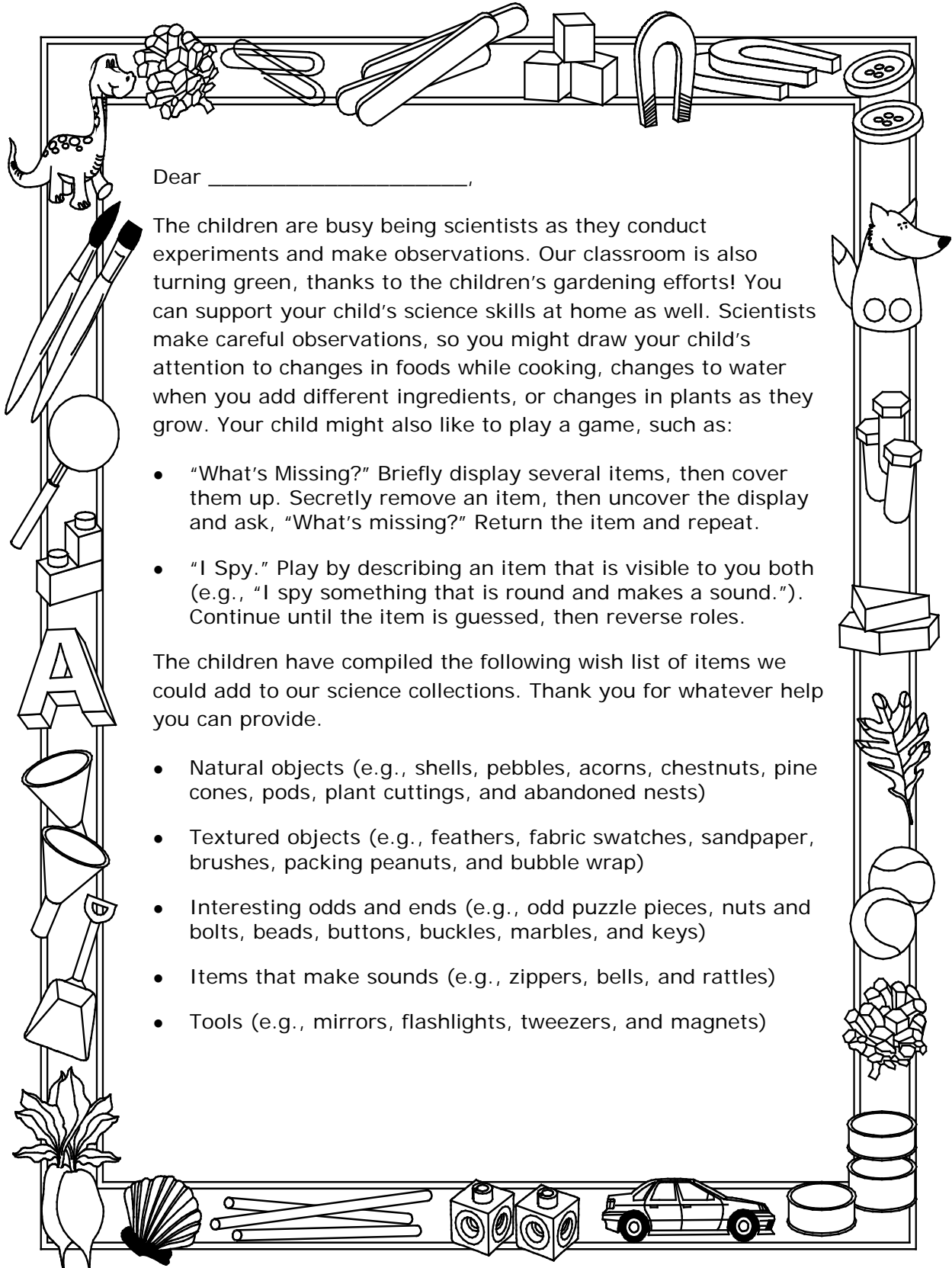


Please feel free to modify this text to make the letter your own



Dear _____,

The children are busy being scientists as they conduct experiments and make observations. Our classroom is also turning green, thanks to the children's gardening efforts! You can support your child's science skills at home as well. Scientists make careful observations, so you might draw your child's attention to changes in foods while cooking, changes to water when you add different ingredients, or changes in plants as they grow. Your child might also like to play a game, such as:

- "What's Missing?" Briefly display several items, then cover them up. Secretly remove an item, then uncover the display and ask, "What's missing?" Return the item and repeat.
- "I Spy." Play by describing an item that is visible to you both (e.g., "I spy something that is round and makes a sound."). Continue until the item is guessed, then reverse roles.

The children have compiled the following wish list of items we could add to our science collections. Thank you for whatever help you can provide.

- Natural objects (e.g., shells, pebbles, acorns, chestnuts, pine cones, pods, plant cuttings, and abandoned nests)
- Textured objects (e.g., feathers, fabric swatches, sandpaper, brushes, packing peanuts, and bubble wrap)
- Interesting odds and ends (e.g., odd puzzle pieces, nuts and bolts, beads, buttons, buckles, marbles, and keys)
- Items that make sounds (e.g., zippers, bells, and rattles)
- Tools (e.g., mirrors, flashlights, tweezers, and magnets)