



Monday, August 3, 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In our 6th-grade science class, we are about to launch an exciting, hands-on project called **The Classroom Bio-Dome Challenge**. Over the next two weeks, students will step into the shoes of environmental engineers to design, build, and study their own miniature ecosystem models.

Through this project-based unit, students will learn the Nature of Science firsthand—tracking data, analyzing environmental disruptions, and arguing their findings using empirical evidence.

To make this project a success, we need your help collecting recycled and everyday materials. If you have any of the following items available at home, please consider sending them to school with your child by **Wednesday Aug 12th**:

- **2-Liter Clear Plastic Soda Bottles** (Empty, rinsed out, with labels removed. *Please ensure they are completely clear plastic, not green!*)
- **Extra plastic bottle caps**
- **Small bags of aquarium gravel, pebbles, or potting soil**
- **Cotton string, twine, or thick yarn**
- **Small terrestrial critters** collected from your yard (such as pillbugs/isopods, earthworms, or snails)

Your donations directly support our classroom's hands-on lab experiences and help bring science to life for our students. Thank you so much for your time, support, and investment in our young scientists!

Sincerely,

*Ms. Matz* / 6th Grade Science Team

***[laurie.matz@tvcs.org](mailto:laurie.matz@tvcs.org)***