

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parents,

In science class, students have been studying Ozark caves, springs, losing streams and sinkholes. We have discussed how Ozark groundwater is vulnerable to pollution coming from the surface, and we have watched the video "Karst in the Ozarks," which is available online at <http://www.watersheds.org>.

Enclosed is a take-home assignment, which is a home and yard checklist. It is designed to help students better understand how they can help manage the systems around their homes to prevent groundwater pollution – both now and in the future.

I hope you can take some time to discuss the items on the checklist with your student, since some of these items might be unfamiliar to your son or daughter. You can probably help them answer the questions.

Please understand that students will be graded only on whether or not they complete the assignment – whether they try to answer the questions as best they can. They will not be graded down if their checklist results suggest that some home practices could be improved. It is expected that everyone will have some area or another where there are opportunities to better protect groundwater quality. In fact, the point of the exercise is to provide ideas to students on how they can help keep everybody's drinking water clean.

I also want you to be assured that your student's checklist will be treated as private information. Your son's or daughter's results will not be individually identified to other students, and we certainly aren't going to share any information with the public or outside organizations.

Thank you in advance for taking some time to help your student with this checklist. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_

Science Teacher

Contact me at: \_\_\_\_\_