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Science Curriculum & Progression of Skills Overview

Year A and B overview - Skills progression - Science

Pupils are taught the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to engage in the process of being a Scientist.

Below are the skills and end points for each phase

EYFS

Children at the expected level of development will:

Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants.

Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.

Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

	Year1/2	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
Working Scientifically	I can ask simple questions. I know what I am trying to find out. I can identify and classify. I use my senses to make observations. I can observe closely, using simple equipment. I make some measurements of what I observe. I can perform simple tests. I can use observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions. I can gather and record data to help in answering questions. I can report what I have found out. I think of reasons for what I have found out. <i>I can ask scientific questions.</i> <i>I can give ideas about how I might answer these questions.</i>	I can ask relevant scientific questions. I can set up simple practical enquiries and comparative and fair tests. I can make accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, e.g. thermometers and data loggers. I can gather, record, classify and present data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions. I can record findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, bar charts and tables. I can report on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions. I can identify differences, similarities or changes related to simple, scientific ideas and processes. I can use straightforward, scientific evidence to answer questions or to support my findings. I can use my results to draw simple conclusions.	I can plan enquiries, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary. I can use appropriate techniques, apparatus and materials during fieldwork and laboratory work. I can take measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision. I can record data and results using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, bar and line graphs, and models. I can report findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations of results and conclusions. I can present findings in written form, displays and other presentations. I can use my data to interpret patterns.



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	<p><i>I can identify, classify and group using scientific criteria.</i></p> <p><i>I can use senses to make accurate observations.</i></p> <p><i>I can suggest what equipment I use to make observations.</i></p> <p><i>I can make accurate measurements of length, capacity, weight and time.</i></p> <p><i>I can perform simple tests and start to consider if a test is fair.</i></p> <p><i>I can make a prediction.</i></p> <p><i>I can use observations, ideas and scientific knowledge to suggest answers to enquiries.</i></p> <p><i>I can use scientific vocabulary to describe my observations.</i></p> <p><i>I can record my data using pictures, text, tables, charts and labelled diagrams.</i></p> <p><i>I can compare data and observations.</i></p> <p><i>I can report what I have found out and give reasons.</i></p> <p><i>I can say whether what happened was what I expected.</i></p>	<p><i>I can act on suggestions and put forward my own ideas about how to find the answer to a question.</i></p> <p><i>I can carry out a fair test, and explain why it was fair.</i></p> <p><i>I can choose suitable equipment to measure data for experiments involving length, mass, time and temperature.</i></p> <p><i>I can record findings using relevant scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, bar charts and tables.</i></p> <p><i>I can use straightforward, scientific evidence to answer questions and to support my findings.</i></p> <p><i>I can look for patterns in my data and try to explain them.</i></p> <p><i>I can use results to draw simple conclusions and suggest improvements, new questions and predictions for setting up further tests.</i></p>	<p>I can use test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests.</p> <p>I can consider how changing one variable can alter another and can use –er words to describe this (e.g. the heavier the load, the longer the spring)</p> <p><i>I can plan enquiries, deciding on the most appropriate approach, and describing how to vary one factor while keeping the others the same.</i></p> <p><i>I can select apparatus and plan to use them effectively and safely.</i></p> <p><i>I can make a series of observations, comparisons or measurements with precision and can record these systematically.</i></p> <p><i>I can record data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, bar and line graphs, and models.</i></p> <p><i>I can report findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations of results, explanations involving causal relationships, and conclusions.</i></p> <p><i>I can use scientific language and conventions to communicate quantitative and qualitative data.</i></p> <p><i>I can repeat observations and measurements and offer explanation for any differences I encounter.</i></p> <p><i>I can draw conclusions that are consistent with the evidence and relate these to scientific knowledge.</i></p>
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			<i>I can use simple models to describe scientific ideas, identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.</i>
Seasonal Changes	<p><u>Spring changes and human senses (B spr 2)</u></p> <p>I can observe changes across the four seasons.</p> <p>I can observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies.</p>		
Sound		<p>Sound (B Sum 2)</p> <p><i>I can identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating.</i></p> <p><i>I can recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear.</i></p> <p><i>I can find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it.</i></p> <p><i>I can find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it.</i></p> <p><i>I can recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.</i></p>	
Earth and Space			<p><u>Space (B Aut 1)</u></p> <p>I can describe the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the sun in the solar system.</p>



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			<p>I can describe the movement of the moon relative to the Earth.</p> <p>I can describe the sun, Earth and moon as approximately spherical bodies.</p> <p>I can use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.</p>
<p>Evolution and Inheritance</p>		<p>I can explain how some animals have adapted to suit their environment.</p> <p>I can identify features of some animals that suit their environment.</p>	<p><u>Evolution and Inheritance (B Aut 1 and 2)</u></p> <p><i>I can recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.</i></p> <p><i>I recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.</i></p> <p><i>I can identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.</i></p>
<p>Light</p>		<p><u>Light (A Sum 2)</u></p> <p>I can recognise that we need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light.</p> <p>I can notice that light is reflected from surfaces.</p> <p>I can recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect our eyes.</p>	<p>Light (A Spr 2)</p> <p><i>I can recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines.</i></p> <p><i>I can use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye.</i></p>



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		<p>I can recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object.</p> <p>I can find patterns in the way the size of shadows changes.</p>	<p><i>I can explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes. I can use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.</i></p>
<p>Forces and Magnets</p>		<p><u>Forces and Magnets (A Spr2)</u></p> <p>I can compare how things move on different surfaces.</p> <p>I can notice that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance.</p> <p>I can observe how magnets attract or repel each other and attract some materials and not others.</p> <p>I can compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet, and identify some magnetic materials.</p> <p>I can describe magnets as having two poles.</p> <p>I can predict whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing.</p>	<p><u>Forces (A Sum 1)</u></p> <p><i>I can explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object.</i></p> <p><i>I can identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction that act between moving surfaces.</i></p> <p><i>I can recognise that some mechanisms including levers, pulleys and gears allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.</i></p>
<p>Electricity</p>		<p><u>Electricity (A Spr1)</u></p> <p><i>I can identify common appliances that run on electricity.</i></p> <p><i>I can construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers.</i></p> <p><i>I can identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or</i></p>	<p><u>Electricity (B Sum 1)</u></p> <p><i>I can associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit.</i></p> <p><i>I can compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the</i></p>



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		<p><i>not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery.</i></p> <p><i>I can recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit.</i></p> <p><i>I can recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.</i></p>	<p><i>loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches.</i></p> <p><i>I can use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.</i></p>
<p>Plants</p>	<p><u>Plants (A Aut 1)</u></p> <p>I can identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees.</p> <p>I can identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.</p> <p><i>I can observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants.</i></p> <p><i>I can find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.</i></p>	<p><u>How do plants grow? (A Sum 1)</u></p> <p>I can identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers.</p> <p>I can explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant.</p> <p>I can investigate the way in which water is transported within plants.</p> <p>I can explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.</p>	
<p>Living Things and Their Habitats</p>	<p><u>Endangered animals – Habitats (B Aut 1)</u></p> <p><i>I can explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive.</i></p> <p><i>I can identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of</i></p>	<p><u>All Living Things (B Sum 1)</u></p> <p><i>I can recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways.</i></p> <p><i>I can explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.</i></p> <p><i>I can recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.</i></p>	<p><u>Living things and their habitats (B Sum 2)</u></p> <p>I can describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.</p> <p>I can describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.</p> <p><i>I can describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and</i></p>



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	<p>animals and plants, and how they depend on each other.</p> <p><i>I can identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats.</i></p> <p><i>I can describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food.</i></p>		<p><i>based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals.</i></p> <p><i>I can give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.</i></p>
<p>Everyday Materials</p>	<p><u>Materials (B Aut 2)</u></p> <p>I can distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made.</p> <p>I can identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock.</p> <p>I can identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock.</p> <p><i>I can identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses.</i></p> <p><i>I can find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.</i></p>	<p><u>Rocks and Soils (B Aut 2)</u></p> <p>I can compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties.</p> <p>I can describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock.</p> <p>I can recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter.</p> <p><i>I can compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases.</i></p> <p><i>I can observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C).</i></p> <p><i>I can identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.</i></p>	<p><u>Materials and their properties (B Spr 1)</u></p> <p>I can compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets.</p> <p>I know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution.</p> <p>I can use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating.</p> <p>I can give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic.</p> <p>I can demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes.</p>



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			<p>I can explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not usually reversible, including changes associated with burning and the action of acid on bicarbonate of soda.</p>
<p>Animals Including Humans</p>	<p><u>Do the animals need our help? (B Aut 1)</u> I can identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. I can identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. I can describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, including pets).</p> <p><u>Body Investigations (B Sum 1)</u> I can identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense. <i>I can notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults.</i> <i>I can find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air).</i> <i>I can describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right</i></p>	<p><u>Teeth and Eating (B Spr 1)</u> I can identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat. I can identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement. <i>I can describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans.</i> <i>I can identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions.</i> <i>I can construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.</i></p>	<p><u>Animals including humans (A Spr 1)</u> I can describe the changes as humans develop to old age. <i>I can identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood.</i> <i>I can recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function.</i> <i>I can describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans.</i></p>



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	amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.					
Vocabulary	Amphibian	Micro-habitat	Analyse	Pitch	Adaptation	Interdependence
	Animal	Nocturnal	Comparative	Pollination	Behaviourist	Invertebrate
	Bend	Observation	Conclusion	Population	Biology	Micro-organism
	Bird	Observe	Condensation	Predators	Celestial	Naturalist
	Change	Offspring	Criteria	Prediction	Chemistry	Negative
	Chart	Omnivore	Deforestation	Prey	Circuit	Palaeontologist
	Classify	Reproduction	Development	Producers	Circulatory	Phenomena
	Data	Reptile	Diagram	Recognise	Classification	Physics
	Deciduous	Season	Dispersal	Record	Conductor	Positive
	Evergreen	Sort	Ecological	Reflection	Difference	Reproduction
	Explore	Squash	Enquiry	Relationships	Digestion	Similarity
	Fair	Stretch	Evaporation	Scientific	Electricity	Solar system
	Fish	Survival	Evidence	Skeletons	Environment	Space
	Gather	Temperature	Gas	Solid	Evolution	Systematic
	Group	Test	Investigation	Sound	Fossils	Systematically
	Habitat	Twist	Liquid	State	Friction	Transportation
	Hatch	Weather	Magnetic	Thermometer	Galaxy	Variable
	Herbivore		Method	Vibration	Graph	Variation
	Identify		Muscle	Volume	Gravity	Vertebrate
	Investigate		Nutrient		Insulator	Voltage
Life-cycle		Nutrition		*The children are also expected to know the names of the planets in our solar system.		