

Science Learning Journey

Year R

Nature

Exploring their outdoor surroundings at school, children will observe and explore natural materials and describe what they find. Forest school sessions and gardening within the EYFS outdoor area will allow the children to connect their learning to real life.

Seasons

Children will discuss change in seasons from summer to autumn, and autumn to winter. They will also be able to make careful observations, and make drawings of natural objects.



Big picture thinking -

The ability to work with big ideas and holistic concepts



The Natural World

Children will extend their knowledge and be able to offer explanations for what they have observed. For example, 'it melted because the weather is warmer'.

They will also show understanding that we need to care for living things, e.g. watering plants, handling insects gently.



Critical or logical thinking -

The ability to deduce, hypothesise, reason, seek supporting evidence

Year 1

Season and Materials

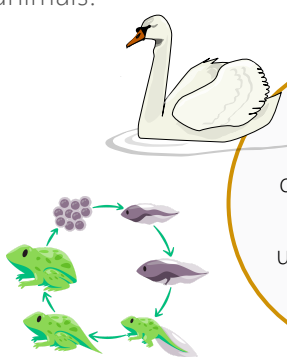
Pupils will embed learning about the main features of each season within the UK. Pupils will also learn that seasons can be very different in other parts of the world, and this will be expanded on in Adventurers. They will move on to explore the properties of a range of materials used in everyday objects. Pupils will investigate the properties of materials

through their senses. The study of materials extends into how malleable certain solid materials can be by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

Lastly, pupils will learn about the meaning of the term 'waterproof' and experiment using simple tests on a range of materials for waterproofness.

New Life and Habitats

Pupils will learn, through class discussion, the difference between living and non-living things. They will be introduced to the concept of change and use the story of the 'Ugly Duckling' to explore the changes that occur over the life span of a swan. Pupils will use observation to identify the key characteristics of birds such as feathers, beaks etc. Simple scientific vocabulary relating to living things will be introduced. They will develop their understanding of life cycles and offspring through birds, in comparison to frogs, before looking in more detail at suitable habitats for different animals.



Confident

The ability to develop a belief in your knowledge, understanding and action.

Plants and Life Processes

Pupils will build on their knowledge of plants from the Explorers Learning Pathway to learn about the structure of plants and learn the correct language to describe their parts. Through learning walks, pupils will observe a variety of different plants and trees. Pupils will learn that plants can grow from either seeds or bulbs but all require certain conditions in order to flourish and be healthy.

They will conduct a simple experiment for growing their own plants and use STEM skills to record growth. Pupils will expand their knowledge of the relationship between plants and animals by learning about food chains. Pupils will learn the terms 'deciduous' and 'evergreen' in relation to trees.



The Sun - Light and Heat

Pupils will learn that, like sound, we use the term 'source' when discussing where light comes from. They will use categorisation to sort light sources and non-light sources, identifying those that require electricity to work. They will learn that the Sun is a light source and they will experiment with using the Sun's energy, recording their findings in a simple way. The concept of sustainable energy will be introduced. Pupils will investigate how shadows are formed and that light levels, as well as shadows, can change. Finally, pupils will look at how light affects animals and identify those animals (nocturnal) that prefer darkness to light.

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Science Learning Journey

Year 2

Speed, Sound and Motion

To begin with, pupils will look at how objects to move by creating lists and then sorting through observation. They will know what defines a push or pull force and conduct simple experiments on increasing these forces to affect speed. Language such as 'faster' and 'slower' will be used to compare how things move and pupils will recognise the importance of adjusting speed in everyday life. Pupils will be introduced to the term 'sources' when learning about where sounds come from and know that language such as 'quieter' and 'louder' is used when comparing sounds.



Complex and multi-step problem solving

The ability to break down a task, decide on a suitable approach and then act

Light and Electricity

Pupils will develop their understanding of light sources and expand this to include those sources that also provide heat energy as well as light. They will recognise that some sources require electricity to work and, therefore, need a circuit and power source in order to function. Pupils will experiment with toys that require electricity and conduct some simple tests from which they can draw conclusions on how these appliances work. Pupils will learn the correct vocabulary for circuit components and will perform some simple tests on putting the components together to make a basic functioning circuit. An introduction to switches will allow for experimenting with how circuits can be broken safely.

Connection finding-

The ability to use connections from past experiences to seek possible generalisations

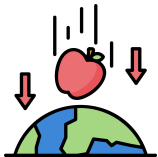


Living Things

Pupils will continue to develop their understanding of what it is that defines a living thing through discussions and questioning and have a clear understanding of what the terms 'living' and 'non-living' mean. Further learning on adults and offspring will look at what is needed to care for a human baby and how that baby changes as it grows. Pupils will be introduced to a range of vocabulary relating to gender, age, stage and diet. Pupils will use reasoning and explanation to list things vital for survival and recognise that science can be used outside the classroom to protect habitats and endangered species.

Year 3

Forces



Pupils will expand their understanding of floating and sinking by initially taking part in a class discussion and then experimenting with a range of objects that may or may not float, making reasoned predictions before their investigations. The concept of displacement of will be introduced and further experiments will take place. Pupils will need to take photographs, record data and draw conclusions from their findings.

Originality

The ability to conceive something new

Animals Including Humans

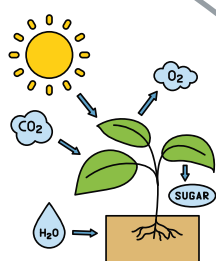
In this unit, pupils will further develop their understanding and knowledge of classifying living things through the use of classification keys. Pupils will, using research skills, investigate one of the 'Big Five' focusing specifically on their dietary requirements. Through observations and class discussions, pupils will learn about teeth in relation to diet and the digestive system of both humans and animals. Pupils will look at various skulls and skeletal systems using reasoned predictions and conclusions to identify which animal they belong to. Knowledge of food chains will also be advanced by, not only interpreting food chains, but by constructing them.

Rocks

In this unit, pupils will have the opportunity to devise a range of experiments to test some more complex scientific processes and observe changes, for example, the effects of erosion of various rock types. Pupils will use a range of scientific instruments such as hand lenses to observe rocks, fossils and soils at close range and thermometers to record more detailed results of changing state. They will compare the work of Mary Anning and Lorna Steel as part of this learning. Vocabulary relating to changes in rock, such as erosion and permeability, will be introduced as well as language relating to the water cycle.

Plants and Habitats

Pupils will continue to develop their understanding of flowering plants by dissecting and labelling the key parts of a plant. Pupils will be introduced to the processes of photosynthesis and water transportation in plants through experimenting and observing. They will have more in-depth class discussions on what plants need for survival and recognise that plants can vary enormously in how much of these elements they require. The reproduction of plants is explored in more depth through comparing how seeds are produced and then dispersed in different ways.

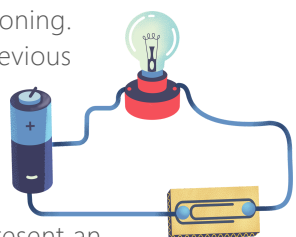


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Year 4

Electricity

In this unit, pupils will learn in more depth about electrical appliances, using classification, and how circuits are essential to their functioning. Pupils are then required to use their previous knowledge of simple circuits to make and draw, using pictorial representations, a range of series circuits and identify the components used. They will need to produce and present an explanation of a circuit they have designed to solve a lighting problem in the local area. An introduction to the concepts of conducting and insulating will be introduced.

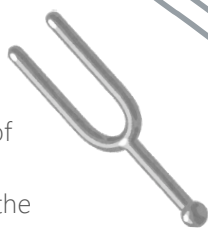


Strategy planning

The ability to approach new learning experiences by actively attempting to connect it to existing knowledge or concepts and hence determine an appropriate way to think about the work

Sound

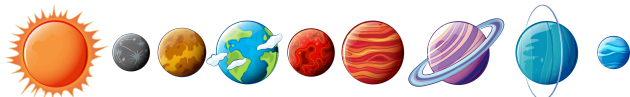
In this unit, pupils will learn about the concept of vibration in relation to how sounds are made, experimenting with tuning forks and observing the vibrations. They will further experiment with changing the volume of sounds by adapting the force used to produce them. Pupils will investigate how sounds travel to the ear and the concept of pitch will be introduced, linking to learning in music.



Year 5

Earth and Space

In this unit, pupils will look at the relationship between the Sun, Earth and Moon and how their movements and location in the solar system affect one another. Pupils will produce detailed labelled diagrams and written explanations, including graphs, to support their ideas. Pupils will deepen their knowledge of the Moon's relationship with the Earth, through self-directed research that will be shared with their peers for discussion.



Risk taking

The ability to demonstrate confidence

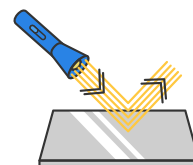
Materials

Pupils will explore changing states of matter in more detail. Initially, they will research the numerous factors and processes that are used to recycle glass and paper. Pupils will then have several opportunities to experiment with changing materials by the introduction of processes such as dissolving, filtering and evaporating etc. They will also test whether changes can be reversible. The experiments that the pupils will devise will require a greater focus on fair testing, using comparisons and retesting to ensure the data collected is accurate. Vocabulary such as substance, solution and mixture will be introduced.



Light

Pupils will learn through investigation that light can be reflected from a range of surfaces and these reflections are not a light source in themselves. They will also experiment, both independently and as a class, with how shadows can change size and shape depending on how close a light source is to the solid object, and how shadows can change size outside, depending on the location of the sun.



Collaborative

The ability to be willing and able to work in teams

Forces

Pupils will embed their understanding of movement, revisiting push and pull forces, but extending this further by experimenting with the concept of friction. They will investigate the effects friction has on movement by designing an experiment that includes reasoned predictions, fair testing and conclusions. Pupils will explore the concept of gravity and other 'invisible' forces.

They will also investigate magnets in a variety of ways such as through independent experiments, observing magnetic materials in their local environment and discussing how magnetic fields are found on Earth. The vocabulary of attract, repel and poles will be introduced.



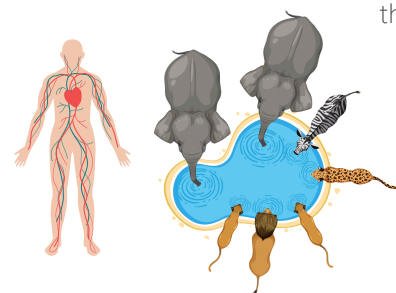
Materials

Pupils will learn that objects are made from materials which are often combined e.g. a window is made of glass, wood and metal. They will look at objects, identify what they are made from and discuss why the chosen material is suitable for that object. Pupils will also differentiate between man-made and natural materials. With a focus on cotton wool, pupils will devise their own investigations to test either absorbency, flexibility or strength etc. They will be expected to produce a sound methodology and analyse their findings.



Humans Including Animals

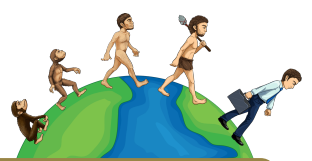
Pupils will develop their understanding of growth and change in animals and humans by researching, sorting and comparing the gestational periods, life cycles and life spans of humans and animals. Using established research, pupils will investigate how diet, drugs and exercise can affect health and life expectancy in humans. The circulatory system will be introduced and pupils will investigate pulse rate, producing graphs to show their findings. They will investigate how vital water is for survival and compare how long animals can survive without water, discussing their findings with the class.



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Year 6

Forces

In this unit, pupils will research and present findings on Sir Isaac

Newton and develop their understanding of gravity. Pupils will carry out a number of experiments on the effects of water, air and frictional resistance. The experiments will require reasoned predictions, accurate recording of data and will be shared with the class once complete. Finally, pupils will carry out investigations into mechanisms and use STEM skills to make and test them. Pupils will discuss how these mechanisms are used in everyday life.



Enquiring

The ability to be curious; be willing to be proactive; keen to learn; show enterprise and think independently

Electricity

In this unit, pupils will further develop their knowledge and understanding of electricity. They will embed and extend their understanding of circuits by experimenting with variations of components, and the concept of voltage will be introduced through changing the number of cells in their circuits.

They will also use scientifically correct symbols for components when completing circuit diagrams. They will now learn and use the correct symbols to represent components. Furthermore, pupils will look at energy, identifying its various forms (thermal, light, kinetic), how it is created through renewable and non-renewable sources and the implications this has on real-world use.

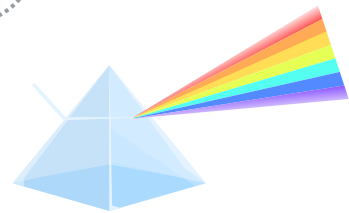


Living Things + Evolution and Inheritance

Pupils will use their previous knowledge of life cycles to explore the similarities and differences between various animal and plant species. Based on specific criteria and questions, pupils will research the life and reproductive cycles of a variety of animals and plants with opportunity for analysis, discussion and comparison. Pupils will be expected to start to give more scientific reasoning for the groupings of plants and animals by using established classification systems. They will also start to investigate adaptations of various plants and animals to suit particular biomes and how some of these adaptations have led to evolutionary changes.

Light

Pupils will carry out a range of experiments to test the theory of light travelling in a straight lines, and the concept of refraction when creating rainbows. Pupils will observe what happens and record their findings appropriately. The structure of the human eye will be introduced with the correct vocabulary and pupils will create labelled diagrams. Finally, pupils will embed their knowledge of shadows by creating shadow puppet theatres, which will include the use of transparent, translucent and opaque materials.



Practice

The ability to train and prepare through repetition of the same processes in order to become more proficient

