Science Skills Progression

St Paul's Cray CE Primary School

In order to ensure broad and balanced coverage, we follow these principles:

- develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics
- develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future.

QUESTIONING				
EYFS	•	Asking simple questions to clarify understanding		
		speak and listen		
Year 1/2	•	Asking simple questions and recognising that they can be answered in different ways		
Year 3/4	•	Asking relevant questions and using different types of scientific enquiries to answer them		
	•	Using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.		
Year 5/6	•	Raise further questions after carrying out investigations		
	•	Identifying the most appropriate way to answer generated questions		

INVESTIGATING				
EYFS	•	To develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves by investigating		
		the world around them freely		
	•	Guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community		
		through opportunities to explore and find out about people, places, technology		
		and the environment		
Year 1/2	•	Performing simple tests		
Year 3/4	•	Use different types of scientific enquiry to answer questions		
	•	Setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests		
	•	Suggest improvements for tests completed		
	•	Taking accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment,		
		including thermometers and data loggers		
Year 5/6	•	Planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including		
		recognising and controlling variables where necessary		
	•	Using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests		

CLASSIFYING AND PATTERN SEEKING			
EYFS	•	Identify simple patterns/similarities between 2 or more objects	
	•	Make healthy choices in relation to food	
Year 1/2	•	Identifying and classifying	
Year 3/4	•	Classifying data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions	
	•	Identifying differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas	
		and processes	
Year 5/6	•	Recording data and results of increasing complexity using classification keys	

OBSERVING			
EYFS	•	Comment on things they observe	
	•	Guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community	
		through opportunities to observe	
Year 1/2	•	Observing closely, using simple equipment	
	•	Using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions	
Year 3/4	•	Making systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, taking	
		accurate measurements using standard units	
Year 5/6	•	Making accurate observations which inform data and from which they can draw	
		conclusions	

RECORDING, INTERPRETING AND PRESENTING DATA				
EYFS	٠	Develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers,		
		calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes,		
		spaces, and measure		
	•	Enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials,		
		as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts,		
		ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance,		
		role-play, and design and technology		
Year 1/2	•	Gathering and recording data to help in answering questions.		
Year 3/4	•	Taking accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment,		
		including thermometers and data loggers		
	•	Gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in a variety of ways to help		
		in answering questions		
	٠	Recording findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams,		
		keys, bar charts, and tables		
	•	Reporting on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations,		
		displays or presentations of results and conclusions		
	٠	Using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their		
		findings.		
Year 5/6	•	Taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing		
		accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate		
	٠	Recording data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and		
		labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs		
	•	Using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests		
	•	Reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal		
		relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written		
		forms such as displays and other presentations		
	•	Identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or		
		arguments.		