Key Learning in Science: Year 1



Please Note: Much of the learning in Year 1 can be done throughout the year using the school and the local environment. For example plants can be observed to make a linked to seasonal change and weather at various different times. Materials could be linked to a different creative theme throughout the year. Key learning can also be covered as a blocked science unit in its own right to introduce or consolidate learning at other times.

Plants: Common Names and Basic Structure

Pupils should be taught to:

- Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees.
- Identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.

Notes and Guidance (non-statutory):

Pupils should use the local environment throughout the year to explore and answer questions about plants growing in their habitat. Where possible, they should observe the growth of flowers and vegetables that they have planted. They should become familiar with common names of flowers, examples of deciduous and evergreen trees, and plant structures (including leaves, flowers (blossom), petals, fruit, roots, bulb, seed, trunk, branches, stem).

Pupils might work scientifically by:

- Observing closely, perhaps using magnifying glasses.
- Comparing and contrasting familiar plants.
- Describing how they were able to identify and group them, and
- Drawing diagrams showing the parts of different plants including trees.
- Keeping records of how plants have changed over time, for example the leaves falling off trees and buds opening.
- Comparing and contrasting what they have found out about different plants.

Animals - Humans

Pupils should be taught to:

- Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.
- Recognise that humans are animals.
- Compare and describe differences in their own features (eye, hair, skin colour, etc.).
- Recognise that humans have many similarities.

Notes and Guidance (non-statutory):

Pupils should have plenty of opportunities to learn the names of the main body parts (including head, neck, arms, elbows, legs, knees, face, ears, eyes, hair, mouth, teeth) through games, actions, songs and rhymes.

Pupils might work scientifically by using their observations to:

- Compare and contrast animals (humans) at first hand or through videos and photographs.
- Using their senses to compare different textures, sounds and smells.

Animals - Other Animals

Pupils should be taught to:

- Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.
- Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.
- Describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, and including pets).
- Find out and describe how animals look different to one another.
- Group together animals according to their different features.
- Recognise similarities between animals:
- Structure: head, body, way of moving, senses, body covering, tail.
- Animals have senses to explore the world around them and to help them to survive.
- Recognise that animals need to be treated with care and sensitivity to keep them alive and healthy.
- Animals are alive; they move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce.

Notes and Guidance (non-statutory):

Pupils should use the local environment throughout the year to explore and answer questions about animals in their habitat. They should understand how to take care of animals taken from their local environment and the need to return them safely after study. Pupils should become familiar with the common names of fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, including those that are kept as pets.

Pupils might work scientifically by using their observations to:

- Compare and contrast animals at first hand or through videos and photographs.
- Describing how they identify and group them.
- Grouping animals according to what they eat.
- Using their senses.

Key Learning in Science: Year 1



Material Properties – Everyday Materials

Pupils should be taught to:

- Distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made.
- Identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock.
- Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials.
- Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties.

Notes and Guidance (non-statutory):

Pupils should explore, name, discuss and raise and answer questions about everyday materials so that they become familiar with the names of materials and properties such as: hard/soft; stretchy/stiff; shiny/dull; rough/smooth; bendy/not bendy; waterproof/not waterproof; absorbent/not absorbent; opaque and transparent. Pupils should explore and experiment with a wide variety of materials, not only those listed in the programme of study, but including for example: brick, paper, fabrics, elastic, foil.

Pupils might work scientifically by:

- performing simple tests to explore questions, for example:
- 'What is the best material for an umbrella? ...for lining a dog basket? ...for curtains? ...for a bookshelf? ...for a gymnast's leotard?'

Light and Astronomy – Seasonal Change

Pupils should be taught to:

- Observe changes across the four seasons.
- Observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies.

Notes and Guidance (non-statutory):

Pupils should observe and talk about changes in the weather and the seasons.

Note:

Pupils should be warned that it is not safe to look directly at the Sun, even when wearing dark glasses.

Pupils might work scientifically by:

- Making tables and charts about the weather and
- Making displays of what happens in the world around them, including day length, as the seasons change.

Additional suggestion from Lancashire for working scientifically opportunities which enhance learning and support using ICT across the curriculum

• This unit provides an ideal opportunity for using data logging equipment to record temperatures

Year Group Expectations: Year 1



Sort / group / compare / classify / identify	Research finding things out using a wide range of secondary sources of information and recognising that	Modelling	Recording of 'Explore / Observe' developing a deeper understanding of a wide range of scientific ideas	Questioning asking their own questions about scientific phenomena	Planning using different types of scientific enquiry making decisions about and explaining choices for testing
	scientific ideas change and develop over time		encountering more abstract ideas		
 Name/identify common examples and some common features (Y1/2). With help, decide how to sort and group objects, materials or living things. Say/identify how different things change objects, materials or living things. Make comparisons between simple observable features/characteristics of objects, materials and living things. Say how things are similar or different. Recognise basic features of objects, materials and living things. 	 Find out about the work of famous scientists (historical & modern day) (Y1/2). Use simple and appropriate secondary sources (such as books, photographs and videos) to find things out / find answers. (Y1/2). Ask people questions (Y1/2). 		 Begin to communicate and record their findings using simple scientific language. Begin to use simple scientific language to talk about what they have. Use their own ideas to offer answers to questions. Observe and discuss / talk about / draw/ keep records of changes over different periods of time. Observe closely and discuss / talk about / draw / record the features/properties of things in the real world. 	 Ask simple questions stimulated by the world around them. Demonstrate curiosity by the questions they ask. 	 Begin to choose/suggest ways to find answers Perform simple tests/comparative tests. Talk about ways of answering their questions. Use different types of scientific enquiry. Experiment with a wide variety of things.
Equipment and	Communicating	Considering the r	esults of an investigation /	writing a conclusion	Collaborating
measurement increasing complexity with increasing accuracy and precision make their own decisions about the data to collect	Recording recording data, reporting findings, presenting findings	Describe results Looking for patterns analysing functions, relationships and interactions more systematically	Explain results Draw conclusions based on evidence	Trusting my results	
 Observe using non-standard units e.g. how many lolly sticks/cubes/handfuls, etc. Observe closely, using simple equipment (e.g. hand lenses, egg timers). Observe closely using their senses (Y1). 	 Present their findings in a range of ways using templates where necessary e.g. talk/discuss; write/describe; draw pictures; annotated photographs; video; make/construct tables, charts and displays. Communicate their ideas to a range of audiences in a variety of ways. Begin to use some simple scientific language. 	Sequence photographs of an event/observation. Observe changes over different periods of time and discuss/talk/record about what has happened. Talk/ discuss/ describe/record about what they have seen/ what has happened.	 Read and spell scientific vocabulary (Y1/2). Suggest how things happen. Use their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions. Begin to use simple scientific language to talk about what they have found out. Talk about what they have found out. 		

© Lancashire County Council (2014)