

Primary Science Curriculum Map 2025-2026			
	AUTUMN	SPRING	SUMMER
	KS1		
Y1	<p style="text-align: center;">Sorting and Exploring Materials</p> <p>Children begin to explore the world of materials around them. They learn to identify and name everyday materials such as wood, plastic, metal, glass, fabric, and water. Pupils investigate the properties of these materials, noticing qualities like hard, soft, rough, smooth, bendy, or rigid. They practise sorting objects based on what they are made from and discuss why certain materials are used for particular purposes. Through simple experiments and observations, children develop their curiosity, asking questions and comparing findings. This topic builds early scientific skills in observing, classifying, and explaining the choices of materials in our world.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Amazing Animals and Us</p> <p>Children explore common plants, including garden plants, wild plants, and trees. They learn to identify and name these plants, recognising the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees. Pupils observe the basic structure of flowering plants, including roots, stem, leaves, and petals, and begin to understand their roles. They use sorting and comparison to spot similarities and differences between plants. Through hands-on experiences such as planting seeds and observing growth, children learn how plants change over time and what they need to survive.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Plants & Seasons</p> <p>Children explore plants and seasonal changes through observation and hands-on experiences. They identify and name common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees, and describe the basic structure of flowering plants. Pupils investigate how plants grow and change over time, making links with the seasons. By observing spring buds, summer flowers, autumn leaves, and winter trees, they learn how plants adapt across the year. Children also record weather patterns and notice changes in day length, building an awareness of how the seasons affect the natural world.</p>
Y2	<p style="text-align: center;">Investigating Materials and Their Uses</p> <p>Children build on their knowledge of materials by identifying and comparing everyday materials such as wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper, and cardboard. They describe the simple physical properties of these materials, such as whether they are strong, flexible, smooth, rough, or waterproof. Pupils investigate why different materials are chosen for particular purposes and begin to think about suitability. Through sorting, classifying, and simple investigations, they explore how materials can be shaped by squashing, bending, twisting, or stretching.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Plants and Their Basic Needs</p> <p>Children extend their understanding of plants by observing how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. They learn that plants need water, light, and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy. Pupils explore how different conditions affect growth through simple investigations, developing skills in predicting, observing, and recording changes. They also look closely at how plants change over time, making comparisons and identifying patterns. By linking practical experiences with scientific vocabulary, children deepen their understanding of the life cycle of plants.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Understanding Living Things and Their Environments</p> <p>Children explore animals, humans, and their habitats. They compare things that are living, dead, or never alive, and investigate habitats such as woodlands, ponds, and gardens, identifying how they provide for the needs of different plants and animals. Pupils study simple food chains and consider how animals depend on each other and their environment. They also learn about the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival - air, water, food - and the importance of exercise, hygiene, and a balanced diet.</p>
	KS2		
Y3	<p style="text-align: center;">Rocks and Plants: Foundations of the Natural World</p> <p>Children investigate rocks and plants, developing their skills in observation, comparison, and explanation. They explore different types of rocks, comparing their appearance and properties, and carry out simple tests for hardness and permeability. Pupils also learn how fossils are formed and recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter. Alongside this, children study the functions of plant parts, including roots, stem, leaves, and flowers, and explore what plants need for growth. They investigate water transportation within plants and the role of flowers in pollination and seed dispersal.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Understanding the Human Body and Other Animals</p> <p>Children study animals including humans by focusing on nutrition, skeletons, and muscles. They learn that animals, including humans, need the right types and amounts of nutrition, which they usually get from what they eat. Pupils compare diets of different animals and explore how food provides energy for survival and growth. They also investigate the human skeleton and muscles, comparing them with those of other animals, and consider how these provide support, protection, and movement.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Understanding Light and Physical Forces</p> <p>Children explore light, forces, and magnets through observation and practical enquiry. They learn that light is needed to see, recognise light sources, and understand that shadows form when light is blocked. Pupils investigate how shadows change and how light reflects from surfaces, linking this to safety and everyday experiences. Alongside this, they study forces, comparing how objects move on different surfaces, and explore the properties of magnets. Children test how magnets attract or repel, identify magnetic and non-magnetic materials, and explore magnetic poles.</p>
Y4	<p style="text-align: center;">States of Matter: How Materials Change</p> <p>Children investigate solids, liquids, and gases, exploring how materials can change state. They compare and group materials based on whether they are solid, liquid, or gas, and observe how some materials change when heated or cooled. Pupils measure or research the temperature at which changes occur, including the water cycle's key processes: evaporation and condensation. They learn how heating and cooling affect everyday materials and relate their findings to real-world examples.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Life on Earth: Animals, Humans and Habitats</p> <p>Children learn about animals, humans, and living things in their habitats. They explore the digestive system, identifying parts and their functions, and investigate the different types of teeth in humans and animals, linking form to function. Pupils also construct and interpret simple food chains, recognising producers, predators, and prey. Alongside this, they classify living things using keys, exploring a variety of habitats and how environmental changes can pose dangers to organisms. Through observation, enquiry, and classification, children develop their understanding of how living things survive and interact.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Energy and Vibrations</p> <p>Children investigate electricity and sound through practical exploration. They learn to identify common electrical appliances, construct simple series circuits, and recognise the function of components such as bulbs, switches, wires, and buzzers. Pupils test whether materials are conductors or insulators and consider how electricity is used safely. Alongside this, they explore how sounds are made through vibrations, how they travel, and how pitch and volume can be changed. By carrying out investigations such as building circuits or exploring musical instruments, children develop enquiry skills and scientific understanding.</p>

<p>Y5</p>	<p align="center">Motion, Gravity & Beyond</p> <p>Children study forces alongside Earth and Space, developing enquiry through observation and investigation. They explore the effects of gravity, air resistance, water resistance, and friction, carrying out tests to see how these forces act on different objects. Pupils also investigate how levers, pulleys, and gears allow smaller forces to have a greater effect. Alongside this, they learn about the movement of the Earth, Moon, and planets relative to the Sun, and how day, night, and the seasons occur.</p>	<p align="center">Earth's Living Systems: Humans, Animals, and Their Environments</p> <p>Children deepen their understanding of humans, animals, and living things. They study changes in humans as they develop to old age, including stages of growth and development. Pupils also learn about life cycles of different animals, comparing mammals, amphibians, insects, and birds, and explore plant reproduction through pollination, fertilisation, and seed dispersal. They investigate how living things are classified into broad groups based on similarities and differences, introducing microorganisms as well as plants and animals..</p>	<p align="center">The Science of Materials: Properties, Uses, and Changes</p> <p>Children explore the properties and changes of materials through practical investigations. They compare and group materials by properties such as hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity, and response to magnets. Pupils test how mixtures can be separated using methods like filtering, sieving, and evaporating, and they explore reversible changes, including dissolving, mixing, and changes of state. They also investigate irreversible changes, such as burning and chemical reactions, recognising that new materials can be formed.</p>
<p>Y6</p>	<p align="center">Electricity and Light: Exploring Energy and Its Effects</p> <p>Children develop a deeper understanding of electricity and light through systematic enquiry. They construct and draw circuit diagrams using recognised symbols, investigating how the number and voltage of cells affect the brightness of bulbs or volume of buzzers. Pupils also explore how light travels in straight lines, explaining how we see objects when light reflects into our eyes. They investigate shadows and use models to describe how light behaves, including reflection and refraction.</p>	<p align="center">Animals, Humans, and Habitats: Life Cycles and Adaptation</p> <p>Children study the human circulatory system, learning about the functions of the heart, blood, and blood vessels. They explore the impact of diet, exercise, drugs, and lifestyle on the way their bodies function. Pupils also investigate how water and nutrients are transported within animals and humans. Alongside this, they classify living things into broad groups, including microorganisms, plants, and animals, using classification keys. They explore how living things adapt to their environments and consider how these adaptations may lead to evolution over long periods of time.</p>	<p align="center">Understanding Evolution and Genetic Inheritance</p> <p>Children explore the concepts of evolution and inheritance, developing their understanding of how living things change over time. They learn that offspring inherit characteristics from their parents but are not identical, recognising variation within a species. Pupils study how animals and plants adapt to suit their environments and how these adaptations may help survival. They consider how fossils provide evidence of living things from the past and what this tells us about evolution.</p>