



Science vocabulary

YEAR 1

Year Group	Topic	Vocabulary children should use			Adult vocabulary
YEAR 1	Working Scientifically	Questions Answers Equipment Results Sort Explore Observe Similar	Similarities Egg timers Ruler Tape measure Metre stick Beaker	Collect Measure Record Group Test Compare Describe Different Differences	Collect Evidence Data Table Chart Classify Identify Observe changes of time Notice patterns Notice relationships Secondary sources Hand lenses Communicate
	Plants	Names of locally found garden plants / wild plants / flowering plants / trees Vegetable Name of plants grown	Leaf / leaves Flower Blossom Petal Fruit Berry Names of vegetables grown	Root Bulb Seed Trunk Branch Stem stalk	Wild plants Garden plants Flowering plants Deciduous Evergreen
	Animals including Humans	Names of common animals – fish, birds etc. Meat-eaters Plant feeders Habitat Wild animals Pets Senses Hear/hearing See/seeing Touch / touching Taste/tasting	Body parts Mouth Head Body Neck Arms Eyebrows Eyelashes Legs Elbows Knees Face Eyes Ears Teeth	Wing Claw Tail Beak Fur Feather Fin Scales	Amphibians Reptiles Mammals Carnivores Herbivores Omnivores
	Everyday Materials	Object Material Wood Plastic Glass Metal Solid Liquid Gas	Water Rock Rough smooth Bright / shiny Dull / dim Absorbent Waterproof	Bendy Stiff Soft Hard Squashing Stretching See through Names of common materials	Textures (describing words for different textures) Reflection Properties Transparent



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	Seasonal changes	Season Autumn Winter Spring Summer	Weather Names of common weather features Days Hours Months	Light Dark Shadow Moon movement	Day length
YEAR 2	Working Scientifically	As Yr 1 plus: Chart Table Pictogram Tally chart Block diagram / graph	Gather Order Notice patterns Link ideas	Stop watch Pipette Syringe Use comparatives – hotter/ cooler, older / younger etc	Gather Evidence Data Venn diagram Identify Classify Rank Notice relationships
	Living things and their habitats	Living Alive Non-living Dead Move Grow Feed Breathe Have young Needs Shelter Heat	Habitats Conditions Characteristics Adaptation Food chain Name micro-habitats – log, bush Describes conditions – damp, dark etc	Food chain Carnivore Herbivore Omnivore Name local habitats – pond, woodland	Life processes Reproduce Respire Excrete Producer Consumer Sources of food Seashore Ocean Rainforest Micro-habitat Conditions Depends on/suited to
	Plants	As Yr 1 plus: Seedling Shoot Fully grown	Growth Healthy Wither Soil Earth	Water Light Hot/cold Nutrients	Mature plant Temperature Germinate / germination Pollination Seed dispersal
	Animals including humans	As Yr 1 plus: Adult Young Baby Toddler Child Teenager	Grow Offspring Survival Basic needs – water, food, air	Food types – name common eggs Hygiene Infection Exercise Unhealthy	Develop Reproduction Life cycle Heart rate Nutrition
	Uses of everyday materials	As Yr 1 plus: Man-made Natural Describe features of change –	Suitable Use / useful Characteristics Properties Rigid Flexible Strong	Reflective Non-reflective Transparent Opaque Translucent Shape Changes	Suitability purpose



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Year 3	Working scientifically	As KS1 plus: Scientific enquiry Similarities Differences Observations Keys Bar charts Thermometer Data logger	Weak pushing / pulling	Changes over time Identify Classify Evidence Conclusion Prediction Magnifying glass Microscope	Comparative tests Fair test Careful Present Data Results Support Not support	Systematic Accurate Disprove Notice relationships
	Plants	As KS1 plus: Part Role Temperature Absorb	Soil Well-drained Fertiliser Nutrients Plant life cycle	Transported Pollination Seed formation Seed dispersal	Structure Function Plant tissues Pores Competition for resources	
	Animals including Humans	As KS1 plus: Nutrition Nutrients Dietary fibre Balanced diet Carbohydrate Protein Vitamins Minerals Fat	Skeleton Muscles Support Protection Movement	Brain Blood vessels Heart Skull Ribs Spine Backbone Joints Sockets Bones Tendons	Vertebrates Invertebrates Endoskeleton exoskeleton	
	Rocks	Rock Stone Pebble Boulder Absorb water Let water through	Soil Fossil Grains Crystals Layers Texture Molten magma	Name properties of ..such as hard, soft Name common rocks/soil types, marble, chalk, clay, sandy	Erosion Strata Particles Physical properties Porous Permeable / impermeable	
	Light	Light Light source Names of light sources, torch etc Dark / darkness	Reflect Reflective Mirror Shadow Block / absorb Direction of light	Transparent Opaque Translucent Bright Dim Light beam sunlight	Speed of light Emit Light spectrum	



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	Forces and Magnets	Force gravity Push / pull Direction of force Air resistance streamlined Float / sink Friction Force-meter	Magnet Magnetic force Strength Attract Repel Poles North pole South pole	Bar magnet Ring magnet Button magnet Horse-shoe magnet Name common magnetic and non-magnetic materials	Constant force Non constant force Newton meter Newton
Year 4	Working Scientifically	As previous plus: Increase Decrease Accurate Appearance			Notice relationships Systematic Disprove
	Living things and their habitats	As previous plus: Classification keys Environment Fish Reptiles Amphibians Mammals Birds	Vertebrates Invertebrates Human impact Plant groups (trees, grasses, flowering and non-flowering plants)	Name some common invertebrates	Organism Population Deforestation Development Pollution Positive human impact Negative human impact Variation characteristics
	Animals including Humans	As previous plus: Digestive system digestion Saliva Oesophagus Stomach Small intestine Large intestine Absorb into blood stream	Swallowing Chewing Rectum Anus Faeces Consumer Predator Prey Producers	Canines Incisors Pre-molars Molars Cavities Dentine Plaque Pulp-cavity Fluoride Tooth decay Gums Nerves Enamel	Chemical enzymes breakdown food Gastric juices Reabsorption of water
	States of Matter	As previous plus: Air Oxygen Powder	Water vapour Water cycle Heating /cooling	Evaporation Condensation Energy transfer	Solidify Boiling point Precipitation Transpiration Forces of attraction



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		Grain / granular Changes state Gaseous Particles	Degree Celsius Melt Freeze Boil		
	Sound	Sound Sound source Noise Vibrate / vibration Travel Sound wave	Pitch Volume Loud / quiet Tune High / low Echo Tuning fork	Insulation Instrument Percussion String Brass Woodwind Tunes instrument	Strength of vibrations Reflection of sound
	Electricity	Electricity Electrical device / appliances Mains Plug Components Conductor Insulator	Circuit symbol Cell Battery Wire Bulb Switch Buzzer Motor Connection	Electrical / simple circuit Complete circuit Closed circuit Open circuit Positive Negative Crocodile clip	Series circuit terminal



Year 5

	Working Scientifically	As previous plus: Opinion Fact Variables Independent variable	Dependent variable Controlled variable precision	Classification keys Scatter graphs Line graphs Notice relationships Support	Degree of trust Causal relationships Refute
	Living things and their habitats + Animals including Humans	As previous plus: Reproduction Sexual Asexual Germination Pollination Birth Fertilisation Menstrual cycle Puberty	Seed dispersal Seed formation Pollen Stamen Stigma Anther Filament Style Sepal Carpel	Insect Eggs Live young Egg Cell Embryo Ovary Placenta Penis Testes Vagina Uterus	Plantlets eg: spider plants Runners eg: strawberry plants Chromosomes Ovum Zygote Fallopian tubes Gestation Hormones
	Properties and changes of materials	As previous plus: Solubility Electrical conductivity Thermal conductivity New material Buoyancy suspension	Dissolve Solution Soluble Insoluble Solute Solvent Burning Rusting Gas given off	Mixture Filtering Sieving Reversible change Irreversible change Hard to reverse	Combustion Oxidisation Chemical reaction Residue Filtrate
	Earth and Space	Earth Planets Sun Solar system Moon Celestial body Sphere / spherical Rotation Spin Phases of moon	Axis / axes Night / day Mercury Mars Neptune Venus Jupiter Saturn Pluto Uranus Time zones	Orbit Elliptical orbit Revolve Shadow clocks Sundials Asteroids Comets Galaxy Meteors Light years	Geocentric model Heliocentric model
	Forces	As previous plus: Mechanisms Air resistance	Levers Pulleys Gears springs	Drag forces Transference of force and motion	



		Water resistance			
Year 6	Working Scientifically	As previous plus: systematic	Causal relationships	Refute Degree of trust	
	Living things and their habitats	As previous plus: Organism Micro-organism	Bacteria Microbes fungus	Name invertebrates: arachnid, mollusc, insect and crustacean	
	Animals including Humans	As previous plus: Circulatory system Blood vessels Capillaries Arteries Veins Red blood cells White blood cells	Oxygen Carbon dioxide Lungs Air sacs Ventricles Aorta Wind pipe Diaphragm Bronchi Pulmonary vein / artery	Lifestyle Drugs Diet Heart rate Clotting Plasma	Gaseous exchange Oxygenated / deoxygenated Respiratory system Aerobic respiration Trachea Haemoglobin Bronchioles Alveoli
	Evolution and inheritance	Evolution Adaptation Genes DNA Chromosomes Evolutionary change features	Inherit Inheritance Environmental conditions Fossil records Natural selection	Variation Reproduction Competition Environmental variations Survival of the fittest	Dominance Recessive
	Light	As previous plus: Absorption Transmission	Lenses Optics Prism	Rainbow Refraction spectrum	
	Electricity	As previous plus: Series circuit	Terminal Voltage volume	Current Resistance Circuit diagrams	Parallel circuits