

The Canterbury Primary School



Knowledge and Skills Progression Document

Science

Strands of the subject	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Living things and their habitats. & plants	Sorting and describing natural materials – shells, leaves, rocks and pebbles	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.	Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited.	Know the names of the different parts of a plant (roots, stem, leaves, flower, petals). Identify the parts of a plant (match vocabulary to images or real plant parts).	To recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways by sorting living things into a range of groups. To explore and use classification keys to help group, identify	To describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals by exploring sexual reproduction in plants. To describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals by describing	Be able to use and create a classification key to sort different plants. Identify how plants are adapted to suit their environment (what features have been developed and why?).

Describe and	Describe how	Know the	and name a	sexual	
compare the	different habitats	functions of the	variety of living	reproduction in	Find out about
structure of a	provide for the	different	things in their	mammals.	the work of
variety of	basic needs of	parts of a plant	local and wider		palaeontologists.
common anin	als different kinds of	(roots to anchor	environment.	To describe the	
(fish,	animals and	and obtain water		life cycle of a	
amphibians,	Plants. Describe	& nutrients,	To explore and	mammal by	
reptiles, birds	how thou	stem to	use classification	exploring the life	
and mammals	donand an each	transport water	keys by using	cycles of	
including pets	other.	and hold the	keys to identify	mammals in	
Identify, name	a	flower, leaves to	invertebrates	different	
draw and labe		collect sunlight	found in the local	habitats.	
the basic part		for food & flower	environment.		
the human bo		for pollination).		To describe the	
and say which	and animals in		To recognise that	differences in the	
part of the bo	dy their habitats,	Know what	environments	life cycles of an	
is associated	including	plants need to	can change and	amphibian	
with each sen	se. Microhabitats.	live and grow.	that this can	and an insect by	
			sometimes pose	exploring	
	Describe how	Know how water	dangers to living	complete and	
	animals obtain	is transported in	things by	incomplete	
	their food from	plants.	identifying	metamorphosis.	
	plants and other		changes and		
	animals, using	Know the stages	dangers in the	To describe the	
	the idea of a	in the life cycle	local habitat.	differences in the	
	simple food	of a plant		life cycles of a	
	chain, and	(germination,	To recognise	mammal, an	
	identify and	growth,	environmental	amphibian, an	
	name different	flowering, and	dangers and	insect and a bird	
	sources of food.	fertilisation/seed	endangered	by describing	
		production).	species.		

	Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. Find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.	Know that plants disperse seeds and why they do this (for reproduction).		and comparing different life cycles, including birds.	
Electricity:			Identify common appliances that run on electricity by learning to distinguish between appliances that use and do not use electricity, about the different types of electricity and identifying how to stay safe when using electricity.		Know the scientific symbols for electrical components. Be able to draw a series circuit using the internationally recognised scientific symbols. Associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a

Construct a	buzzer with the
simple series	number and
electrical circuit,	voltage of cells
identifying and	used in the
naming its basic	circuit.
parts, including	
cells, wires,	Understand how
bulbs, switches	to stay safe
and buzzers.	when using
	electricity.
Identify whether	
or not a lamp will	
light in a	
simple series	
circuit,	
based on	
whether or not	
the lamp is part	
of a complete	
loop with a	
battery by	
visualising	
and testing	
circuits to	
see if the circuit	
is complete.	
Recognise some	
common	
conductors and	
insulators, and	
associate metals	
with being good	

				conductors by testing different materials as part of circuit to see whether or not they conduct electricity.	
Classification:	Observe changes across the four seasons. Observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies.	Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive.	Be able to compare and group animals by their diet. Compare the skeletons of different animals.	To explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. To explore and use classification keys by using keys to identify invertebrates found in the local environment.	Understand what makes something a living thing. Understand that broad groupings learnt about in year 4, such as microorganisms, plants and animals can be subdivided. Use a dichotomous key to sort organisms. Make a dichotomous key sort plants.

Animals	Identify and	Notice that	Understand that	To describe the	Describe the	Identify and
including	name a variety of	animals,	animals need the	simple functions	changes as	name the main
humans:	common animals	including	right types and	of the basic	humans develop	parts of the
	including fish,	humans, have	amount of	parts of the	to old age by	human heart.
	amphibians,	offspring which	nutrition.	digestive	drawing a	
	reptiles, birds	grow into adults.		system in	timeline to	Undertake a
	and mammals.		Be able to	humans in the	indicate	dissection
		Find out about	compare and	context of	stages in the	of an animal
	Identify and	and describe the	group animals by	identifying	growth and	heart.
	name a variety of	basic needs of	their diet.	the parts of the	development of	
	common animals	animals,		digestive	humans.	Understand how
	that are	including	Be able to	system.		the circulatory
	carnivores,	humans, for	explain the		Describe the	system works.
	herbivores and	survival (water,	functions of a	To describe the	changes as	
	omnivores.	food and air).	Skeleton.	simple functions	humans develop	Recognise the
				of the basic	to old age in the	impact of diet or
	Describe and	Describe the	Compare the	parts of the	context of the	the body.
	compare the	importance for	skeletons of	digestive	development of	
	structure of a	humans of	different	system in	babies in	Identify the
	variety of	exercise, eating	Animals.	humans by	their first year.	different food
	common animals	the right		explaining the		groups and their
	(fish,	amounts of	Understand how	functions	Record data and	function.
	amphibians,	different	muscles help	of different parts	results of	
	reptiles, birds	types of food,	animals move.	of the digestive	increasing	Understand how
	and mammals,	and hygiene.		system.	complexity	drugs impact the
	including pets).				using bar and	body.
				To identify the	line graphs	
				different types of	in the context of	Understand the
				teeth	the growth of	importance of
	Identify, name,			in humans and	babies in	exercise.
	draw and label			their simple	height and/or	
	the basic parts of the human body			functions by	weight	Understand how

and say which	learning about	during their first	water and
part of the body	the different	year after birth.	nutrients are
is associated	types of teeth.		transported in
with each sense.		Describe the	humans.
	To identify	changes as	
	differences,	humans develop	Identify how
	similarities or	to old age by	animals are
	changes related	comparing the	adapted to suit
	to simple	changes that	their
	scientific ideas	take place to	environment.
	and processes by	boys and girls	
	comparing	during puberty.	Understand tha
	human and		living things hav
	animal teeth.		changed over
			time and
	To set up simple		how adaptation
	Practical		may lead to
	enquiries,		evolution.
	comparative and		
	fair tests by		Understand tha
	setting up an		living things
	enquiry or test to		produce
	understand what		offspring of the
	causes tooth		same kind, but
	decay.		not identical
			to their parents
	To construct and		
	interpret a		
	variety of		
	food chains,		
	identifying		

	producers, predators and prey by understanding food chains and the role of different plants and animals within them.	

Light & sound:	Identify light	To identify how	Understand tha
	sources.	sounds	light travels in
		are made,	straight lines.
	Investigate	associating	
	reflection.	some of them	Understand hov
		with something	light travels
	Explore sun	vibrating, by	compared to
	safety.	identifying and	sound and why
		explaining sound	light therefore
	Understand how	sources around	travels faster.
	shadows are	school.	
	formed.		Understand how
		To find patterns	we see things
		between the	(how light
		volume of a	travels, reflects
		sound and the	off an object ar
		strength of the	into our eyes).
		vibrations that	
		produced it.	Understand wh
			shadows have
		To recognise that	the same shape
		vibrations from	as the objects
		sounds travel	that cast them
		through a	
		medium to the	Understand ho
		ear.	the human eye
			works.
		To find patterns	
		between the	Understand
		pitch of a sound	about
		and features of	the light
		the object that	spectrum.
		produced it,	550000000000000000000000000000000000000

			explaining how	
			pitch can change.	
			To recognise that	
			sounds get	
			fainter as the	
			distance from	
			the sound	
			source increases.	
			To find patterns	
			between the	
			pitch of a	
			sound and	
			features of	
			the object that	
			produced	
			it.	
Forces:	Find out how the	Investigate the		To explain that
	shapes of solid	effects of		unsupported
	objects made	friction.		objects fall
	from			towards the
	some materials	Observe how		Earth because of
	can	magnets attract		the force of
	be changed by	and repel.		gravity acting
	squashing,			between the
	bending,	Investigate the		Earth and the
	twisting and	strength of		falling object by
	stretching.	magnets.		identifying
				forces acting on
		Identify		objects.
		magnetic and		
		non-magnetic		

material.	To identify the	
	effects of air	
Explore magnetic	resistance, water	
poles.	resistance and	
	friction by	
	identifying forces	
	acting on	
	objects.	
	To identify the	
	effects of air	
	resistance for	
	example by	
	investigating	
	the best	
	parachute to	
	slow a person	
	down.	
	To explore and	
	investigate the	
	effects of water	
	resistance.	
	To explore,	
	investigate	
	and identify the	
	effects of friction	
	on a range of	
	different objects.	
	To recognise that	
	some	

	mechanisms,
	including
	levers, pulleys
	and gears,
	allow a smaller
	force to have a
	greater effect by
	exploring and
	designing a
	simple
	mechanism.
	Describe the
	movement
	of the Earth, and
	other planets,
	relative to the
	Sun in the solar
	system.
	To explain that
	unsupported
	objects fall
	towards the
	Earth NONE
	because of the
	force of gravity
	acting between
	the Earth and the
	falling
	object by
	measuring the

					force of gravity pulling on objects.	
Material &	Distinguish	Identify and	Compare	To compare and		
Material & states of matter:	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	compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses. Find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some	different kinds of rocks based on their appearance and physical properties. Explore soil formation. Explore soil composition. Explain how fossils are formed.	group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases by sorting and describing materials into solids, liquids and gases. To compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases by		
	variety of everyday materials.	materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.		investigating gases and their uses. To observe that some materials change state when they are heated or		

cooled, and
measure or
research the
temperature at
which this
happens in
degrees Celsius
(°C) by exploring
how water can
change its state
to a solid, liquid
or a gas.
To make
systematic,
careful and
accurate
observations and
measurements
and report on
findings from
enquiries by
displaying
results and
conclusions
by investigating
the effect of
temperature on
rates of
evaporation.
Cvaporation.

