Year 6 Progression & Coverage Science



Working Scientifically in KS2 - Years 3 - 6

	What pupils should know and be able to do Lower KS2	Key vocabulary Lower KS2	What pupils should know and be able to do Upper KS2	Key vocabulary Upper KS2
Identifying, classifying & grouping	Identifying means to recognise something. Pupils learn that living and non-living things can be sorted according to their differences (classifying) They can then group things according to similarities and differences. These are called criteria. Pupils record classifications using Venn and Caroll diagrams and tables.	differences, similarities, classify, diagram, chart, key, Carroll Diagram, Venn Diagram, behaviour, properties, criteria,	Identifying means to recognise something. Pupils learn that living and non-living things can be sorted according to their differences (classifying) They can then group things according to similarities and differences. These are called criteria. Pupils record classifications using Venn and Caroll diagrams and tables. Pupils use classification keys to group according to criteria.	differences, similarities, classify, diagram, chart, key, Carroll Diagram, Venn Diagram, behaviour, properties, criteria, classification key
Observing Oktober 1997	A systematic observation is a way scientists observe repeatedly with a clear purpose. Pupils need to know that they can use a range of equipment for measuring length, time, temperature and capacity. They use standard units for their measurements, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers. They record their measurements e.g. using tables, tally charts and bar charts (given templates, if required, to which they can add headings)	systematic, notice, patterns, observations, careful, accurate, evidence, increase, decrease, predict, conclude, relationships, appearance, unit measurements	Pupils must know how to select measuring equipment to give the most precise results e.g. ruler, tape measure or trundle wheel, force meter with a suitable scale. During an enquiry, they make decisions e.g. whether they need to: take repeat readings (fair testing); increase the sample size (pattern seeking); adjust the observation period and frequency (observing over time); or check further secondary sources (researching); in order to get accurate data (closer to the true value)	systematic, notice, patterns, observations, careful, accurate, evidence, increase, decrease, predict, conclude, relationships, appearance, unit measurements (force, mm, cm, mins, seconds)
Comparative	In a scientific test, scientists make predictions and hypotheses. A prediction is what they think the outcomes might be, and a hypothesis is an explanation of phenomena. In simple comparative tests children compare one event with another and identify different outcomes. A variable is something that can change. In order to demonstrate a causal relationship between two variables children carry out a fair test. For a fair test, they identify a variable that can be changed and measured while keeping the other variables the same. In investigations, conclusions summarize how your results support or contradict your original prediction and help to form a hypothesis. Pupils learn to recognise when a simple fair test is necessary and help to decide how to set it up. They learn to think of more than one variable factor. They	cause, effect, enquiry, fair test, comparative test, variable factor, record, measure, prediction, conclusion, evidence, hypothesis, phenomena.	The children show they know how to select measuring equipment to give the most precise results e.g. ruler, tape measure or trundle wheel, force meter with a suitable scale. During an enquiry, they assimilate other scientific processes into their learning. They make decisions e.g. whether they need to: take repeat readings (fair testing); increase the sample size (pattern seeking); adjust the observation period and frequency (observing over time); or check further secondary sources (researching); in order to get accurate data (closer to the true value). They evaluate their findings, suggest improvements to their methods and form hypotheses.	Control, relationships, reliability, accuracy, interpret, justify, prove, Question/Enquiry, Method, Variables, Prediction, Results, Conclusion, Evaluation

	recognise when a simple comparative test is necessary and help to decide how to set it up.			
pattern seeking ☆ □ □ □	Children begin to look for naturally occurring patterns and relationships and decide what data to collect to identify them. With help, children can look for changes, patterns, similarities and differences in their data in order to draw simple conclusions and answer questions. Children can say what they found out, linking cause and effect.	patterns, relationships, cause, effect, data, changes, similarities, differences, predict, question, observations, conclude,	Pupils learn how to identify causal relationships and patterns in the natural world from their evidence; make simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions. They draw conclusions based on their evidence and current subject knowledge. They identify results that do not fit the overall pattern; and explain their findings using their subject knowledge (anomalies)	causal, interpret, data, graphs and charts, anomaly, atypical, typical, impact
Research using secondary sources	Begin to recognise when and how secondary sources might help to answer questions that cannot be answered through practical investigations	secondary source, reliability, fact, interpretation	Begin to recognise when and how secondary sources might help to answer questions that cannot be answered through practical investigations	secondary source, reliability, fact, interpretation

Scientific Knowledge Year 6

Topic Title	Animals Including Humans	Evolution and Inheritance	Living Things & Their Habitats	Light	Electricity
(Concept)	(Animals and Humans)	(Evolution and Inheritance)	(Living Things & Their Habitats)	(Light and Seeing)	(Electricity)
	Identify and name the main parts of the	Recognise that living things have	Describe how living things are	Recognise that light appears to	Associate the brightness of a lamp
NC Reference	human circulatory system, and describe	changed over time and that fossils	classified into broad groups	travel in straight lines. Use the	or the volume of a buzzer with the
	the functions of the heart, blood vessels	provide information about living	according to common observable	idea that light travels in straight	number and voltage of cells used i
	and blood	things that inhabited the Earth	characteristics and based on	lines to explain that objects are	the circuit
	Recognise the impact of diet, exercise,	millions of years ago. Recognise	similarities and differences,	seen because they give out or	Compare and give reasons for
	drugs and lifestyle on the way their	that living things produce offspring	including microorganisms, plants	reflect light into the eye. Explain	variations in how components
	bodies function Describe the ways in which nutrients and	of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical	and animals Give reasons for classifying plants	that we see things because light travels from light sources to our	function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers
	water are transported within animals,	to their parents. Identify how	and animals based on specific	eyes or from light sources to	and the on/off position of switches
	including humans.	animals and plants are adapted to	characteristics.	objects and then to our eyes. Use	Use recognised symbols when
	including numaris.	suit their environment in different	characteristics.	the idea that light travels in	representing a simple circuit in a
		ways and that adaptation may lead		straight lines to explain why	diagram.
		to evolution.		shadows have the same shape as	
				the objects that cast them.	
Prior learning	Describe the importance for humans of	Notice that animals, including	Describe how different habitats	Recognise that they need light in	Identify common appliances that
	exercise, eating the right amounts of	humans, have offspring which grow	provide for the basic needs of	order to see things and that dark is	run on electricity. • Construct a
	different types of food, and hygiene. (Y2	into adults. (Y2 - Animals, including	different kinds of animals and	the absence of light. • Notice that	simple series electrical circuit,
	- Animals, including humans) • Identify	humans) • Explore the part that	plants, and how they depend on	light is reflected from surfaces. •	identifying and naming its basic
	that animals, including humans, need the	flowers play in the life cycle of	each other. (Y2 - Living things and	Recognise that light from the sun	parts, including cells, wires, bulbs,
	right types and amount of nutrition, and	flowering plants, including	their habitats) Recognise that	can be dangerous and that there	switches and buzzers. • Identify
	that they cannot make their own food;	pollination, seed formation and	living things can be grouped in a	are ways to protect their eyes. •	whether or not a lamp will light in
	they get nutrition from what they eat.	seed dispersal. (Y3 - Plants).	variety of ways. • Explore and use	Recognise that shadows are formed	a simple series circuit, based on
	(Y3 - Animals, including humans) • Describe the simple functions of the basic	Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have	classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of	when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object. •	whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery. •
	parts of the digestive system in humans.	lived are trapped within rock. (Y3 -	living things in their local and	Find patterns in the way that the	Recognise that a switch opens and
	(Y4 - Animals, including humans) •	Rocks) • Recognise that	wider environment. (Y4 - Living	size of shadows changes. (Y3 -	closes a circuit and associate this
	Identify the different types of teeth in	environments can change and that	things and their habitats) •	Light) • Compare and group	with whether or not a lamp lights i
	humans and their simple functions. (Y4 -	this can sometimes pose dangers to	Describe the differences in the	together everyday materials on the	a simple series circuit. • Recognise
	Animals, including humans)	living things. (Y4 - Living things and	life cycles of a mammal, an	basis of their properties, including	some common conductors and
		their habitats)	amphibian, an insect and a bird.	their hardness, solubility,	insulators, and associate metals
			(Y5 - Living things and their	transparency, conductivity	with being good conductors. (Y4 -
			habitats) • Describe the life	(electrical and thermal), and	Electricity)
			process of reproduction in some	response to magnets. (Y5 -	
			plants and animals. (Y5 - Living	Properties and changes of	
			things and their habitats)	materials)	

Sticky knowledge	The heart pumps blood in the blood vessels around to the lungs. Oxygen goes into the blood and carbon dioxide is removed. The blood goes back to the heart and is then pumped around the body. Nutrients, water and oxygen are transported in the blood to the muscles and other parts of the body where they are needed. As they are used, they produce carbon dioxide and other waste products. Carbon dioxide is carried by the blood back to the heart and then the cycle starts again as it is transported back to the lungs to be removed from the body. This is the human circulatory system. Diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle have an impact on the way our bodies function. They can affect how well our heart and lungs work, how likely we are to suffer from conditions such as diabetes, how clearly we think, and generally how fit and well we feel. Some conditions are caused by deficiencies in our diet e.g. lack of vitamins. This	All living things have offspring of the same kind. Due to sexual reproduction, the offspring are not identical to their parents and vary from each other. Plants and animals have characteristics that make them suited (adapted) to their environment. If the environment changes rapidly, some variations of a species may not suit the new environment and will die. If the environment changes slowly, animals and plants with variations that are best suited will survive to reproduce and pass their characteristics on to their young. Over a longer period of time, these characteristics may be so different to how they were originally that a new species is created. This is evolution.	Living things can be formally grouped according to characteristics. Plants and animals are two main groups but there are other living things that do not fit into these groups e.g. micro-organisms such as bacteria and yeast, and toadstools and mushrooms. Plants can make their own food. Animals can be divided into two main groups: vertebrates and invertebrates. Vertebrates can be divided into five small groups: fish; amphibians; reptiles; birds; and mammals. Each group has common characteristics. Invertebrates can be divided into a number of groups, including insects and spiders. Plants can be divided broadly into two main groups: flowering plants; and non-flowering plants.	Light appears to travel in straight lines, and we see objects when light from them goes into our eyes. The light may come directly from light sources, but for other objects some light must be reflected from the object into our eyes for the object to be seen. Objects that block light (are not fully transparent) will cause shadows. Because light travels in straight lines the shape of the shadow will be the same as the outline shape of the object. Light can change direction in a process called refraction	Adding more cells to a complete circuit will make a bulb brighter, a motor spin faster or a buzzer make a louder sound. If you use a battery with a higher voltage, the same thing happens. Adding more bulbs to a circuit will make each bulb less bright. Using more motors or buzzers, each motor will spin more slowly and each buzzer will be quieter. Turning a switch off (open) breaks a circuit so the circuit is not complete and electricity cannot flow. Any bulbs, motors or buzzers will then turn off as well. You can use recognised circuit symbols to draw simple circuit diagrams.
Working Scientifically (These are suggested WS areas that complement unit - also refer to and highlight WS milestones as cover and ensure all covered over year/phase)	content is also included in PSHE Identify classify and describe Classify and describe the roles of veins, capillaries and arteries in the circulatory system Classify healthy and unhealthy foods, describe the importance of exercise, the impact of illegal drugs on the body. Pattern Seeking Investigate how exercise affects heart rate, before, just after and minutes after exercise. Investigate recovery period. Identify mean for class/ group and compare with average for age group. Comparative and fair testing Investigate variables affecting heart rate in exercise, design a fair test. Secondary Sources Use secondary sources to research the negative impact of drugs such as tobacco	Identify classify and describe Identify features in animals and plants that are passed onto offspring and explore this process by considering the artificial breeding of animals or plants e.g. dogs Observations over time Investigate conditions needed for bread to go mouldy and microorganisms to thrive Pattern Seeking Compare how humans and other mammals have evolved over time Comparative and fair testing Which bird 'beak' has adapted best for which type of bird 'food' (models Galapagos finches)	Identify classify and describe Classify animals, plants, fungi, bacteria and Protista according to the Carl Linnaeus system. Create classification charts for vertebrates and invertebrates Create a classification system for some of the living things in the school ground	Identify classify and describe Identify ways that light can change direction, including through refraction Pattern Seeking Explore different ways to demonstrate that light travels in straight lines e.g. shining a torch down a bent and straight hose pipe, shining a torch through different shaped holes in the card. Note patterns in how mirrors change the direction of light travelling Comparative and fair testing Investigate the best reflective material for a periscope Investigate variables which affect the size of a shadow	Identify classify and describe Make circuits then represent them in circuit diagrams and applying component symbols appropriately. Pattern Seeking Experiment with, explain and demonstrate the pattern between the voltage of cells and the brightness of a bulb. Comparative and fair testing Compare and explain, using correct scientific language, what happens to lamps, buzzers and motors when a resistor changes the flow of electricity in a circuit.

End of unit task	Understand animals and humans Write a booklet explaining how the heart and circulatory systems work and the importance of looking after them	Understand evolution and inheritance Explain and give examples of the idea of adaptation and evolution	Understand how to use and create a classification system for living things Follow a key and use to classify.	Understand how light travels Experiment with making or using a periscope to demonstrate how objects may be seen. Explain what	Understand electrical circuits Devise ways to measure brightness of bulbs, speed of motors, volume of a buzzer during a fair test Using
			Create own key for a friend to follow and use to classify.	is happening to the light.	correct scientific language, describe how changing the number and types of components in a circuit affects how they operate, such as increasing number of motors, buzzers