

Preston CofE Primary School

Science Skills Progression

Topic	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Working	Finding ways to	Asking simple	Asking simple	Asking relevant	Asking relevant	Planning	Planning different
scientifically	solve problems, Making predictions	questions and recognising that they can	questions and recognising that	questions and using different types of	questions and using different types of	different types of scientific enquiries to	types of scientific enquiries to answer questions,
	Testing their ideas, Developing ideas of grouping,	be answered in different ways,	they can be answered in different ways,	scientific enquiries to answer them,	scientific enquiries to answer them,	answer questions, including	including recognising and controlling
	sequences, cause and effect	Observing closely, using	Observing closely, using	Setting up simple	Setting up simple practical	recognising and controlling	variables where necessary,
	Planning, making decisions about how to approach	simple equipment, Performing	simple equipment, Performing	Practical enquiries, comparative and	enquiries, comparative and fair tests,	variables where necessary, Taking	Taking measurements, using a range of
	a task, solve a problem and	simple tests, Identifying	simple tests, Identifying and	fair tests, Making	Making systematic and	measurements, using a range of	scientific equipment, with
	reach a goal, Checking how well their	And classifying, Using their	classifying, Using their observations	systematic and careful observations	careful observations and, where	scientific equipment, with increasing	increasing accuracy and precision, taking
	activities are going,	Observations and ideas to	and ideas to	and, where appropriate,	appropriate, taking accurate	accuracy and precision, taking	repeat readings when appropriate,
	Changing strategy as needed,	suggest	suggest answers to	taking accurate measurements	measurements using standard	repeat readings when	Recording data and results of

R	Reviewing how	answers to	questions,	using standard	units, using a	appropriate,	increasing
v	well the approach	questions,	Gathering and	units, using a	range of	Recording data	complexity using
v	worked	Gathering	recording data	range of	equipment,	and results of	scientific diagrams
		and recording	to	equipment,	including	increasing	and labels,
		data to help in	help in	including	thermometers	complexity using	classification keys,
		answering	answering	thermometers	and data	scientific	tables, scatter
		questions	questions	and data	loggers,	diagrams and	graphs, bar and
				loggers,	Gathering,	labels,	line graphs,
				Gathering,	recording,	classification	Using test results
				recording,	classifying and	keys, tables,	to make
				classifying and	presenting data	scatter graphs,	predictions to set
				presenting data	in a variety of	bar and line	up further
				in a variety of	ways to help in	graphs,	comparative and
				ways to help in	answering	Using test	fair tests,
				answering	questions,	results to make	Reporting and
				questions,	Recording	predictions to	presenting
				Recording	findings using	set up further	findings from
				findings using	simple scientific	comparative and	enquiries,
				simple scientific	language,	fair tests,	including
				language,	drawings,	Reporting and	conclusions,
				drawings,	labelled	presenting	causal
				labelled	diagrams, keys,	findings from	relationships and
				diagrams, keys,	bar charts, and	enquiries,	explanations of
				bar charts, and	tables,	including	and a degree of
				tables,	Reporting on	conclusions,	trust in results, in
				Reporting on	findings from	causal	oral and written
				findings from	enquiries,	relationships	forms such as
				enquiries,	including oral	and	displays and other
				including oral	and written	explanations of	presentations,
				and written	explanations,	and a degree of	Identifying
				explanations,	displays or	trust in results,	scientific evidence
				displays or	presentations	in oral and	that has been
						written forms	used to support or

				presentations of results and conclusions, Using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further	of results and conclusions, Using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further	such as displays and other presentations, Identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments	refute ideas or arguments
				and raise further questions, Identifying differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes, Using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings	further questions, Identifying differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes, Using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.		
Animals including humans	They make observations of animals and plants and explain	Identify and name a variety of common animals	Notice that animals, including humans, have	Identify that animals, including	Describe the simple functions of the basic parts of	Describe the changes as humans develop to old age	Identify and name the main parts of the human

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why some things	including fish,	offspring which	humans, need	the digestive	circulatory
occur, and talk	amphibians,	grow into	the right types	system in	system, and
about changes	reptiles, birds	adults, Find out	and amount of	humans,	describe the
	and mammals	about and	nutrition, and	Identify the	functions of the
	Identify and	describe the	that they cannot	different types	heart, blood
	name a variety	basic needs of	make	of teeth in	vessels and
	of common	animals,	their own food;	humans and	blood,
	animals that	including	they get	their simple	Recognise the
	are carnivores,	humans, for	nutrition from	functions,	impact of diet,
	herbivores	survival (water,	what they eat,	Construct and	exercise, drugs
	and	food and air),	Identify that	interpret a	and lifestyle on
	omnivores,	Describe the	humans and	variety of food	the way their
	Describe and	importance for	some other	chains,	bodies function,
	compare the	humans of	animals have	identifying	Describe the ways
	structure of a	exercise, eating	skeletons and	producers,	in which nutrients
	variety of	the right	muscles for	predators and	and water are
	common	amounts of	support,	prey	transported
	animals (fish,	different types	protection and		within animals,
	amphibians,	of food, and	movement		including humans
	reptiles, birds	hygiene			
	and mammals				
	including				
	pets),				
	Identify,				
	name, draw				
	and label the				
	basic parts of				
	the human				
	body and say				
	which part of				
	the body is				
	associated				

		with each sense				
Living things and their habitats (evolution)	Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things, They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another		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 and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other, Identify and	Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways, Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment, Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things	Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird, Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals	Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals, Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics

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			name a variety				
			of				
			plants and				
			animals in their				
			habitats,				
			including				
			microhabitats,				
			Describe how				
			animals obtain				
			their food from				
			plants and				
			other				
			animals, using				
			the idea of a				
			simple food				
			chain, and				
			identify and				
			name different				
			sources of food.				
Materials:	Children know	Distinguish	Identify and	Rocks	States of	Compare and	
	about similarities	between an	compare the	Compare and	Matter	group together	
states of	and differences	object and the	suitability of a	group together	Compare and	everyday	
matter and	in	material from	variety of	different kinds	group materials	materials on the	
	relation to	which it is	everyday	of rocks on the	together,	basis of their	
rocks	places,	made,	materials,	basis of their	according to	properties,	
	objects,	Identify and	including wood,	appearance and	whether they	including their	
	materials	name a variety	metal, plastic,	simple physical	are solids,	hardness,	
	and living things,	of	glass, brick,	properties,	liquids or	solubility,	
	They make	everyday	rock, paper	Describe in	gases,	transparency,	
	observations of	materials,	and	simple terms	Observe that	conductivity	
	animals and	including	cardboard for	how fossils are	some materials	(electrical and	
	plants and explain	wood,	particular uses,	formed when	change state	thermal), and	
	why somethings			things that have	when they are		

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occur, and talk	plastic, glass,	Find out how	lived are	heated or	response to
about changes,	metal, water,	the	trapped within	cooled, and	magnets,
They know the	and rock,	shapes of solid	rock,	measure or	Know that some
properties of	Describe the	objects made	Recognise that	research the	materials will
some	simple	from some	soils are made	temperature at	dissolve in liquid
materials and	physical	materials can	from rocks and	which this	to form a
can	properties of a	be changed by	organic matter	happens in	solution, and
suggest some of	variety of	squashing,		degrees Celsius	describe how to
the purposes	everyday	bending,		(°C),	recover a
they	materials,	twisting and		Identify the part	substance from
are used for	Compare and	stretching		played by	a solution,
	group			evaporation	Use knowledge
	together a			and	of solids, liquids
	variety of			condensation	and gases to
	everyday			in the water	decide how
	materials on			cycle and	mixtures might
	the basis of			associate the	be separated,
	their simple			rate of	including
	physical			evaporation	through
	properties			with	filtering, sieving
				temperature	and
					evaporating,
					Give reasons,
					based on
					evidence from
					comparative
					and fair tests,
					for the
					particular uses
					of everyday
					materials,
					including
					Including

					metals, wood and plastic, Demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes, Explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not usually reversible, including changes associated with burning and the action of acid on bicarbonate of soda.	
<u>Plants</u>	They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes	Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous	Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants, Find out and	Identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk,		

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	and evergreen	describe how	leaves and		
	trees,	plants need	flowers,		
	Identify and	water, light and	Explore the		
	describe the	a suitable	requirements of		
	basic structure	temperature to	plants for life		
	of a	grow and stay	and growth (air,		
	variety of	healthy	light,		
	common		water, nutrients		
	flowering		from soil, and		
	plants,		room to grow)		
	including		and how they		
	trees		vary from plant		
			to plant,		
			Investigate the		
			way in which		
			water is		
			transported		
			within plants,		
			Explore the part		
			that flowers play		
			in the life cycle		
			of flowering		
			plants, including		
			pollination, seed		
			formation and		
			seed dispersal		
Seasonal Looks closely at	Observe				
similarities	changes				
<u>changes</u> differences,	across the 4				
patterns and	seasons,				
change – in	Observe and				

	relation to the	describe			
	four seasons and	weather			
	when different	associated			
	weather occurs	with the			
		seasons and			
		how day			
		length varies			
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Forces,	Developing ideas		Forces &	Forces	
	of grouping,		Magnets	Explain that	
earth and	sequences, cause		Compare how	unsupported	
space	and effect in		things move on	objects fall	
<u> </u>	relation to		different	towards the	
	movement i.e		surfaces	Earth because	
	toys, cars, rough		notice that	of the force of	
	surfaces,		some	gravity acting	
	They know the		forces need	between the	
	properties of		contact between	Earth and the	
	some materials		2 objects, but	falling object.	
	and can suggest		magnetic forces	Identify the	
	some of the		can act at a	effects of air	
	purposes they are		distance,	resistance,	
	used for,		Observe how	water resistance	
	They are familiar		magnets attract	and friction,	
	with basic		or repel each	that	
	scientific		other and	act between	
	concepts such as		attract	moving	
	floating, sinking,		some materials	surfaces,	
	experimentation		and not others,	Recognise that	
			Compare and	some	
			group together a	mechanisms	
			variety of		
			everyday		

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			materials on the		including levers,	
			basis of		pulleys and	
			whether		gears	
			they are		allow a smaller	
			attracted to a		force to have a	
			magnet, and		greater effect	
			identify some			
			magnetic			
			materials,			
			Describe			
			magnets as			
			having 2 poles,			
			Predict whether			
			2 magnets will			
			attract or repel			
			each other,			
			depending on			
			which poles are			
			facing			
Sound, light			Light	Sound		Light
			Recognise that	Identify how		Recognise that
<u>and</u>			they need light	sounds are		light appears to
electricity			in order to see	made,		travel in straight
			things and that	associating		lines,
			dark is the	some of them		Use the idea that
			absence of light,	with something		light travels in
			Notice that	vibrating,		straight lines to
			light is reflected	Recognise that		explain that
			from surfaces,	vibrations from		objects are seen
			Recognise that	sounds travel		because they give
			light from the	through a		out or reflect light
			sun can be			into the eye,

T	dangaraus and	medium to the	Evalain that wa
	dangerous and		Explain that we
	that there are	ear,	see things
	ways to protect	Find patterns	because light
	their eyes,	between the	travels from light
	Recognise that	pitch of a sound	sources to our
	shadows are	and	eyes or from light
	formed when	features of the	sources to objects
	the light from a	object that	and then to our
	light source is	produced it,	eyes,
	blocked by an	Find patterns	Use the idea
	opaque object,	between the	that light
	Find patterns	volume of a	travels in
	in the way that	sound and the	straight lines to
	the size of	strength of the	explain why
	shadows	vibrations that	shadows have
	change	produced it,	the same shape
		Recognise that	as the objects
		sounds get	that cast them
		fainter as the	
		distance from	Electricity
		the sound	Associate the
		source	brightness of a
		increases	lamp or the
			volume of a
		Electricity	buzzer with the
		Identify	number and
		common	voltage of cells
		appliances that	used in the
		run on	circuit,
		electricity,	Compare and
		Construct a	give reasons for
		simple series	variations in
			how components
I			components

electrical	function, including
circuit,	the brightness of
identifying and	bulbs, the
naming its	loudness of
basic parts,	buzzers and the
including cells,	on/off position of
wires, bulbs,	switches,
switches and	Use recognised
buzzers,	symbols when
Identify	representing a
whether or not	simple circuit in a
a lamp will	diagram
light in a simple	
series circuit,	
based	
on whether or	
not the lamp is	
part of a	
complete loop	
with a battery,	
Recognise that	
a switch opens	
and closes a	
circuit and	
associate this	
with whether or	
not a lamp	
lights in a	
simple series	
circuit,	
Recognise	
some	
common	

		conductors and	
		insulators, and	
		associate	
		metals with	
		being good	
		conductors	