

Year	1	Topic	Plants

Curriculum objectives

- 1. Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees.
- 2. Identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.

Classifying

• Allow children to classify leaves, flowers, and seeds, choosing their own criteria.

Observing over time

- Observe a tree through the year.
- Observe a trail/patch to identify how plants change through the year.

Pattern seeking

 Based on observations, encourage children to identify patterns e.g. after comparing the size of leaves on different plants, children may suggest "bigger plants have bigger leaves."

Comparative/Fair testing

Not relevant

Researching

 Use secondary sources to name plants (including trees) based on observations of leaves, seeds, flowers, buds, and bark (Leafsnap UK on Apple App Store, SEEK INaturalist on google play and Apple App Store, textbooks, Woodland Trust resources).



Year	1	Tonio	Animale including humane
real	 	LODIC	I Animals, including humans

Curriculum objectives

- 1. Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.
- 2. Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.
- 3. Describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, including pets).
- 4. Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.

Classifying

- Classify animals they have seen/have first-hand experience of, choosing their own criteria to do so.
- · Classify animals based on physical structure.
- Classify animals they have first-hand experience of based on what they eat (plants, other animals, both). (Complete this after the research.)

Observing over time

Observe animals in the local environment throughout the year.

Pattern seeking

- Children generate questions for investigation such as:
 - Do people with longer arms have longer legs?
 - Can more people identify prawn cocktail crisps than cheese and onion?
 - Do all animals with have?

Comparative/Fair testing

Can I taste the difference between different flavoured crisps/skittles/smarties?

Researching

- Use secondary sources to name animals seen in the local environment that they may not currently be able to name (e.g. birds: magpie, blackbird).
- Research what animals they have first-hand experience of eat.



Year	1	Topic		Everyday materials
Curriculum objectives				
 Distinguish 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. 				
3. Describe the simple physical prope4. Compare and group together a var	rties of a variety of everyday m	naterials.		

Classifying

- Classify objects made from the same material (e.g. lots of things made from plastic).
- Classify one object made from different materials (e.g. cups made of different materials).
- Classify different fabrics based on texture (e.g. to make a feely-book for a child).
- Classify paper/plastics/fabrics.

Observing over time

Not relevant

Pattern seeking

Not relevant

Comparative/Fair testing

• Test objects made of different materials to see how effective they are e.g. umbrellas/hats/coats for waterproofness, cloths/nappies for absorbency, socks for elasticity, bounciness of balls, sunglasses for protection from the sun, picnic plates for stiffness, door mats for wiping your feet, different papers for writing on/painting etc.

Researching

Not relevant



Year	1	Topic	Seasonal changes				
Curriculum objectives							
	 Observe changes across the four seasons. Observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies. 						
Classifying							
Not relevant							
Observing over time							
	are wearing (jumper, coat, hats	ar home with one child each day	ay and ask the child to record their activities, but the bear gathers evidence, over time, that day length changes and so				
Pattern seeking							
At the end of the year, look for patt month?	erns in evidence e.g. Does it ra	ain more in spring? Do we have	e more sunny days in the summer? Which was the coldest				
Comparative/Fair testing							
Not relevant							
Researching							
Not relevant							



Year	2	Topic	Living things and their habitats
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Curriculum objectives

- 1. Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive.
- 2. 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.
- 3. Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro-habitats.
- 4. 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.

Classifying

- Find things that are living.
- Find things that are dead.
- Find things that have never been alive.
- Classify things found in the environment (choosing their own criteria to do so), leading to living, dead and never been alive.
- Classify minibeasts found in the environment based on physical structure.
- Classify plants found in the environment.

Observing over time

- Explore animals in micro-habitats throughout the year (under a rock, under a log, in a pond, in a bush, in the long grass).
- Explore plants in micro-habitats throughout the year (e.g. woodland area, ponds, meadows).

Pattern seeking

- Children generate questions for investigation such as:
 - Are there more daisies in the meadow or on the field?
 - Where do you see more ivy?
 - Where do you see more butterflies?
 - Where do snails live?

Comparative/Fair testing

Not relevant



Researching

- Use secondary sources to name plants and animals seen in the local environment that they may not currently be able to name (Leafsnap UK on Apple App Store, SEEK INaturalist on google play and Apple App Store, textbooks, Woodland Trust resources).
- Research what animals they have first-hand experience of eat.



Year	2	Topic		Plants
Curriculum objectives				
 Observe and describe how seeds a Find out and describe how plants r 			y healthy.	
Classifying				
 Based on the children's own criteri classify seeds classify bulbs. 	а:			
Observing over time				
Plant seeds and bulbs and observe	how they grow.			
Pattern seeking				
 Children generate questions for inv Do big seeds germinate more Does it matter which way round Which comes first, the root or to 	quickly? d you plant a bulb or seed?			
Comparative/Fair testing				
Not relevant				
Researching				
Look at packets to decide how to p	lant and care for seeds e.g. H	low much water do they need	? Do they need shade/full sun	1?



Year	2	Topic	Animals, including humans			
Curriculum objectives						
2. Find out about and describe the ba						
Classifying						
 Based on the children's own criteric classify food items classify animals. 	a:					
Observing over time						
Observe a life cycle (e.g. caterpillaObserve how their body changes of						
Pattern seeking						
Not relevant						
Comparative/Fair testing						
Not relevant						
Researching						
Research adult animals and their y	oung e.g. googling pictures and names	s of animal babies – swan and cygnet.				



Year	2	Topic	Uses of everyday materials
Curriculum objectives			
particular uses.		iding wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, r e changed by squashing, bending, twisti	
Classifying			
Based on the children's own criteri	a, classify materials e.g. samples of wo	od, metal, plastic, etc.	
Observing over time			
Not relevant			
Pattern seeking			
Not relevant			
Comparative/Fair testing			
		an aeroplane? Which fabric would you ostume? Which paper can be used for a	
Researching			
Not relevant			



Year	3	Topic	Plants
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Curriculum objectives

- 1. Identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers.
- 2. Explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow), and how they vary from plant to plant.
- 3. Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants.
- 4. Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.

Classifying

 Classify flowers based on the children's own criteria. (This does not meet the curriculum objectives for this topic, but it is a good opening activity to assess prior knowledge.)

Observing over time

- · Observe celery (with roots and leaves) in coloured water.
- Observe white carnations (freshly cut) in coloured water.
- Gather seeds and photographic evidence of blossoms/flowers and berries on a particular trail throughout the year.

Pattern seeking

• Investigate what happens when conditions are changed e.g. more/less light/water, change in temperature, nutrients (Baby Bio vs other brands).

Comparative/Fair testing

Not relevant



Researching

- Research the functions of the parts of flowering plants.
- Research different methods of seed dispersal.
- Research different methods of pollination.



Year	3	Tonic	Animals, including humans
i c ai	S	Topic	Animais, including numans

Curriculum objectives

- 1. Identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat.
- 2. Identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement.

Classifying

- Based on the children's own criteria:
 - classify food items (leading to sorting by nutrients)
 - classify animals (leading to sorting by whether or not they have skeletons).

Observing over time

Not relevant

Pattern seeking

- Children generate questions for investigation into objective 1 such as:
 - Do 'healthy' drinks have less sugar?
 - Does brown bread have more fibre?
- Children generate questions for investigation into objective 2 such as:
 - Do people with long arms throw further?
 - Can people with short legs jump higher?
 - Can people with longer legs run faster?
 - Can people with bigger hands catch a ball more easily?

Comparative/Fair testing

Not relevant



Researching

- Look at food packaging to identify the amount of nutrients in different food items.
- Research which types of food contain which nutrients.
- Generate questions to research about the human skeleton.



Year 3 Topic Rocks

Curriculum objectives

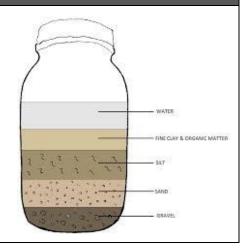
- 1. Compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties.
- 2. Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock.
- 3. Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter.

Classifying

- Based on the children's own criteria, classify rocks. (At the beginning of the topic, this will most likely focus on appearance, leading to physical properties at the end of the unit.)
- Look at different soils and discuss how they are similar/different.

Observing over time

Observe how soil separates into different layers in water – see diagram.





Pattern seeking

Not relevant

Comparative/Fair testing

- Test the hardness of different rocks.
- Test what happens when rocks are put in water.
- Test how quickly water runs through different types of soil.

Researching

• Research how fossils are formed.



Year	3	Topic	Light			
Curriculum objectives						
 Notice that light is reflected from su Recognise that light from the sun of Recognise that shadows are formed 	 Notice that light is reflected from surfaces. Recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes. Recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by a solid object. 					
Classifying						
 classify light sources (leading t 	 Based on the children's own criteria: classify light sources (leading to man-made/natural) classify materials (leading to reflective/non-reflective, transparent/translucent/opaque). 					
Observing over time						
Not relevant (NB Do not look at hor	w shadows in the playground	change throughout the day.)				
Pattern seeking						
Not relevant						
Comparative/Fair testing						
 Test materials for reflectiveness. Test materials for transparency. Investigate shadows (size of shadows) 	ows, shape of shadows).					
Researching						
Not relevant						



Year	2	Tania	Forese and magnets
rear	ა	Topic	Forces and magnets

Curriculum objectives

- 1. Compare how things move on different surfaces.
- 2. Notice that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance.
- 3. Observe how magnets attract or repel each other and attract some materials and not others.
- 4. Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet and identify some magnetic materials.
- 5. Describe magnets as having two poles.
- 6. Predict whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing.

Classifying

- Based on the children's own criteria:
 - sort materials (leading towards metal/non-metal and magnetic/not magnetic)
 - sort toys (leading to what makes them move e.g. push/pull).

Observing over time

Not relevant

Pattern seeking

Not relevant

Comparative/Fair testing

- Test how objects move on different surfaces e.g. cars, spinning tops, wind-up/clockwork toys.
- Test the strength of different magnets.

Researching

Find out how magnets are used in everyday life.



Year	4	Topic	Living things and their habitats

Curriculum objectives

- 1. Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways.
- 2. Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.
- 3. Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

Classifying

- Based on the children's own criteria:
 - classify a number of living things in their local environment (plants and animals)
 - classify a number of living things in the wider environment (plants and animals) after completing research
 - introduce branching databases/dichotomous keys.

Observing over time

Observe living things in their local environment at different times of the year.

Pattern seeking

- Do animals with have?
- Do plants with have?

Comparative/Fair testing

Not relevant

Researching

- Research and be able to name plants and animals in the wider environment e.g. polar, desert, jungle, etc.
- Research global environmental issues and their impact on living things.



Year	4	Topic	Animals, including humans		
Curriculum objectives					
2. Identify the different types of teeth					
Classifying					
	pes of teeth (linking to simple functions). In making food chains e.g. recognise wh	at eats plants and what eats animals by	looking at their teeth.		
Observing over time					
Not relevant					
Pattern seeking					
Not relevant					
Comparative/Fair testing	Comparative/Fair testing				
Not relevant					
Researching					
create a PPT, etc.)		at they've learned in different ways: crearal, polar, African grasslands, in order to			



Curriculum objectives

- 1. Compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases.
- 2. 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).
- 3. Identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

Classifying

- Based on the children's own criteria:
 - classify solids (including grains, crystals, powders: physical properties)
 - classify liquids.

Observing over time

- Watch ice melt (ice hands).
- Watch hand prints dry e.g. water hand prints on coloured paper towel.
- Watch frozen liquids melt.

Pattern seeking

Not relevant

Comparative/Fair testing

- What affects the melting rate of chocolate (size of pieces, temperature of water, type of chocolate)?
- What affects the rate an 'ice pole' melts?
- What affects the rate of evaporation?
- Test the 'runniness' of liquids.



Researching

- Research the melting point of metals.
- Research the water cycle. (Children present what they've learned in different ways: create a model, write a song, write a story, create a PPT, etc.)



Research, make and play their own instruments based on what they learned about pitch and volume.

Year	4	Topic	Sound		
Curriculum objectives					
 Identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating. Recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear. Find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it. Find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it. Recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases. 					
Classifying					
Based on the children's own criteria	a, sort musical instruments.				
Observing over time	Observing over time				
Not relevant	Not relevant				
Pattern seeking	Pattern seeking				
Not relevant	Not relevant				
Comparative/Fair testing					
 Measure volume from different inst Measure how volume changes awa Investigate string telephones. Explore pitch e.g. through a carous 	ay from a source.	les, straw pipes, rulers, elastic ba	oand guitars.		
Researching					



Year	4	Topic	Elect	ricity	
Curriculum objectives					
 Identify common appliances that run on electricity. Construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. 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. 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. 					
Classifying					
 Based on the children's own criteria Test materials to classify into insula 		s and/or toys (leading to elect	rical/not electrical, batteries/mains).		
Observing over time					
Not relevant					
Pattern seeking					
Not relevant	Not relevant				
Comparative/Fair testing					
Not relevant					
Researching					
Not relevant					



Year	5	Topic	Living things and their habitats	
Curriculum objectives				
	cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an luction in some plants and animals.	insect and a bird.		
Classifying				
Classify animals according to their	life cycle			
Observing over time				
 Grow from cuttings and observe whether they grow roots/stem/ leaf/flower. Grow from, and harvest, bulbs through the year. (Can be done in conjunction with Year 2.) Observe strawberry/spider plants through the year. 				
Pattern seeking				
 Children generate questions such as: Do larger mammals have longer gestation periods? Do larger animals live longer? Do smaller animals lay more eggs? 				

Researching

Not relevant

Comparative/Fair testing

- Generate questions to research the life cycle of a chosen animal: mammal, amphibian, insect, bird e.g. dragon fly, cuckoo, salmon, worm, owl. (Children present what they've learned in different ways: create a model, write a song, write a story, create a PPT, etc.)
- Research how gardeners asexually reproduce plants.



Year	5	Topic	Animals, including humans	
Curriculum objectives				
1. Describe the changes as humans of	levelop to old age.			
Classifying				
Not relevant				
Observing over time				
Not relevant				
Pattern seeking				
Not relevant				
Comparative/Fair testing				
Not relevant				
Researching				
Develop questions to ask an exper	e.g. a health visitor, doctor or nurs	se. (Questions will need to be filtered by the	teacher.)	



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Curriculum objectives

- 1. Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets.
- 2. Give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic.
- 3. Know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution and describe how to recover a substance from a solution.
- 4. Demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes.
- 5. Use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating.
- 6. 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.

Classifying

- Based on the children's own criteria:
 - classify the materials themselves e.g. samples of wood, metal, plastic, etc.
 - after observing what happens when solids are added to liquids, classify materials based on the outcomes.

Observing over time

• Observe rusting with uncoated nails in different liquids. (This can be achieved by removing coating with sandpaper.)

Pattern seeking

Not relevant

Comparative/Fair testing

- Which material would be good for a tent?
- Which material would be good to make a tea bag from?
- Which materials keep things warm/cold?
- Which material would be good for a bag for different purposes?



- Test solids for solubility.
- Compare rates of solubility.
- Burn different materials (not plastic or toxic substances).

Researching

Not relevant



Year	5	Topic	Earth and space			
Curriculum objectives						
 Describe the movement of the Moo Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon 	 Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth. Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies. 					
Classifying						
Not relevant						
Observing over time						
Measure shadows throughout the or	day.					
Pattern seeking	Pattern seeking					
Not relevant	Not relevant					
Comparative/Fair testing	Comparative/Fair testing					
Not relevant						
Researching						
Generate questions to research ab a story, create a PPT, etc.)	out the Earth and space. (Children pres	sent what they've learned in different way	s: create a model, write a song, write			



Year	5	Topic	Forces			
Curriculum objectives	Curriculum objectives					
2. Identify the effects of air resistance						
Classifying						
Not relevant						
Observing over time						
Not relevant	Not relevant					
Pattern seeking	Pattern seeking					
Not relevant	Not relevant					
Comparative/Fair testing						
Compare water resistance e.g. box	ats in a gutter of water, plasticine in a cers, parachutes, sailing boats, straw ro	ter, balloon rockets, CD hovercraft, balloo cylinder of liquid (easier with a more visco ckets.				





Researching

• Research Heath Robinson and Rube Goldberg machines. (Children present what they've learned in different ways: create a model, write a story, create a PPT, etc. This could be cross-curricular with D&T and English biography writing.)



Year	6	Topic	Living things and their habitats		
Curriculum objectives					
 Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals. Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics. 					
Classifying					
 Classify plants into flowering, moss 	 Classify animals according to Carl Linnaeus' system. Classify plants into flowering, mosses, ferns and conifers, based on specific characteristics. Create a branching database/dichotomous key to classify a set of living things. 				
Observing over time	Observing over time				
Not relevant					
Pattern seeking					
Not relevant					
Comparative/Fair testing					
Not relevant					



Researching

- Research the characteristics of a vertebrate/invertebrate group. (Children present what they've learned in different ways: create a model, write a song, write a story, create a PPT, etc.)
- Research the characteristics of flowering plants, mosses, ferns and conifers.
- Research the difference between bacteria, virus and fungi to give reasons why these are not plants or animals.
- Research how micro-organisms can be helpful or harmful.
- Research unusual animals e.g. axolotl, platypus, kangaroos etc.



Year	6	Topic	Animals, including humans	
Curriculum objectives				
2. Recognise the impact of diet, exerc	of the human circulatory system, and decise, drugs and lifestyle on the way theingts and water are transported within anir		essels and blood.	
Classifying				
Not relevant				
Observing over time				
Observe pulse rates before, during	and after exercise.			
Pattern seeking				
 Children generate questions for investigation such as: Do older people have lower pulse rates? Do boys have higher pulse rates? 				
Comparative/Fair testing				
Complete different activities to com	Complete different activities to compare the impact on their own heart rate.			
Researching				

Generate questions to research about the human circulatory system. (Children present what they've learned in different ways: create a model, write a

song, write a story, create a PPT, etc.)



Curriculum objectives

- 1. Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.
- 2. Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.
- 3. Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.

Classifying

- To show variation in a species:
 - Classify a species of animal e.g. cats, dogs
 - classify a species of plant e.g. daffodils, tulips, lilies.

Observing over time

Not relevant

Pattern seeking

• Use different pieces of equipment, e.g. chopsticks, toothpicks, cutlery, to look for patterns linking the suitability of bird beaks for the available food e.g. rice, grapes, raisins.

Comparative/Fair testing

Not relevant

Researching

Research different types of a species and their characteristics making them suitable for different habitats e.g. penguins.



Year	6	Topic	Light	
Curriculum objectives				
 Recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines. Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye. Explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes. Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them. 				
Classifying				
Not relevant				
Observing over time				
Not relevant				
Pattern seeking				
Not relevant				
Comparative/Fair testing				
Investigate the shape of shadows and link this to light travelling in straight lines.				
Researching				
Not relevant				



Year	6	Topic	Electricity	
Curriculum objectives				
 Associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit. Compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches. Use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram. 				
Classifying				
Not relevant				
Observing over time				
Not relevant				
Pattern seeking				
Not relevant				
Comparative/Fair testing				
 Investigate the effect of adding more bulbs to a circuit. Investigate the effect of adding more cells to a circuit. Investigate the effect of adding more buzzers to a circuit. Investigate the effect of adding more motors to a circuit. 				
Researching				
Not relevant				