

KS1 Science Strands

Year 1

Animals including humans

Children name human body parts and senses and compare them with those of common animals.

Draw pictograms using data about differences between children, e.g. hair colour and discuss the needs of pets.

Collect, draw, label and identify minibeasts and visit a local farm.

Intro to Forces

Children are introduced to simple forces as pushes and pulls which act in a particular direction.

They investigate forces associated with vehicles, explore bubbles, experiment with magnets and look at natural forces affecting our world.

Life Cycles

Stories, videos and lots of hands on investigations will enable children to understand the life cycles of minibeasts, amphibians and plants.

Sessions include study of a variety of species: ladybirds, butterflies, frogs, dragonflies, trees and flowering plants.

Light & Sound

Children find we need light to see things and that darkness is an absence of light.

They identify light sources and have fun investigating shadows.

Go on a listening walk and discover how different sounds are made.

Then investigate floor coverings for a baby's room.

Living & Growing

Children name body parts and collect data about themselves to present as a pictogram.

They explore the differences between living and things that have never been alive.

Then find out what plants and animals need to stay alive and how all baby animals grow to become adults.

Senses

Children have lots of hands-on experience to investigate the five senses of touch, sight, hearing, taste and smell.

Discuss how animals can use their senses to help us or to show their feelings, and how some people deal with losing one of their senses.

Types of Materials

Explore materials commonly found in the classroom, sorting them into plastic and not plastic.

Discover objects that float and sink before carrying out related investigations.

Use the Three Little Pigs to study building materials before looking at magnets.

Year 2

Animals including humans

Discuss how animals have offspring that grow into adults and think about how children have changed since they were babies.

Look at various life cycles and find out what animals need to survive.

Study balanced diets and exercise, which help keep humans fit and healthy.

Changing Materials

Children develop an understanding that materials have different properties and therefore different uses.

Discuss natural/man-made materials.

Children find that materials, e.g. water, often change when heated or cooled and that forces can change the shape of materials.

Electricity

Appliances using mains electricity or batteries or both are identified and the dangers of mains electricity emphasised.

Children construct simple circuits and explain why some do not work.

They include switches in their circuits to turn components on and off.

Forces

Children develop a basic understanding of forces as pushes and pulls that can make things speed up and slow down.

Find out that forces can also change the shape of things and are being exerted in a range of everyday contexts.

Carry out investigations using vehicles.

Healthy Humans

Children learn that to stay alive, to grow and to be healthy they need food, water, exercise and rest.

Investigate balanced diets and different food groups.

Find out which is the favourite form of exercise.

Discuss things that might harm their bodies.

Living Things in their Environment

Differences and similarities between plants and animals are discussed.

The plants and animals found in the local environment are investigated.

Children learn that living things can be grouped by the way they look and that habitats affect this and should be cared for.

Plants

Children develop an understanding that plants are alive and follow a life cycle.

They recognise and name plant parts.

An investigation is done to discover what seeds need to germinate.

The variety of plants in the locality is studied and different seeds investigated.