

Science Vocabulary Progression

VOCABULARY IN RED IS FROM OTHER LINKED TOPICS

Working scientifically vocabulary should be taught throughout the topics in each year group during practical work and scientific enquiry.



	EYFS hear	Year 1 Use	Year 2 Use	Year 3 Use	Year 4 Use	Year 5 Use and define	Year 6 Use and define
	look closely, observe, watch, touch, feel, smell, listen, same, different, compare, ask questions, record, sort, group	observe, changes, patterns, grouping, sorting, compare, same, different, identify, (name), measure, data, record results, drawing, picture, table, tally chart, present, pictogram, block chart, Venn diagram, ask questions, test, investigate, explore, equipment, resources, magnifying glass, hand lens, ruler, tape measure, metre stick, pipette, syringe, spoon, teaspoon, answer questions, interpret results, scientific enquiry, pattern seeking, comparative testing, observing over time, classifying, researching using secondary sources		practical work, fair testing, relationships, accurate, thermometer, data logger, stopwatch, timer, estimate, data, diagram, identification key, chart, bar chart, prediction, similarity, difference, evidence, information, findings, criteria, values, properties, characteristics, conclusion, explanation, reason, evaluate, improve		variables, independent variable, dependent variable, control variable, evidence, justify, argument (science), causal relationship, accuracy, precision, scatter graphs, bar graphs, line graphs, force meter	
Plants	tree, bush, herb, names of plants they see (Reception - Living things and their habitats)	leaf, flower, blossom, petals, fruit, berry, root, seed, trunk, branch, stem, bark, stalk, bud, names of trees in the local area, names of garden and wild flowering	light, shade, Sun, warm, cool, water, space, grow, healthy, bulb, germinate, shoot, seedling names of plants in local habitats and micro-habitats (Y2 - Living things and their habitats)	photosynthesis, pollen, insect/wind pollination, male, female, seed formation, seed dispersal (wind dispersal, animal dispersal, water dispersal), air,	classification, classification keys (Y4 - Living things and their habitats)	life cycle, reproduce, sexual, fertilises, asexual, plantlets, runners, tubers, cuttings (Y5 Living things and their habitats)	flowering, non-flowering, mosses, ferns, conifers (Y6 - Living things and their habitats)

		plants in the local area		nutrients, minerals, soil, absorb, transport			
Living things and their habitats	plant, tree, bush, flower, vegetable, herb, weed, animal, names of plants and animals they see, name of a contrasting environment (e.g. beach, forest)	names of garden and wild flowering plants in the local area (Y1 - Plants) head, body, eyes, ears, mouth, teeth, leg, tail, wing, claw, fin, scales, feathers, fur, beak, paws, hooves, names of animals experienced first-hand from each vertebrate group (Y1 - Animals, including humans) weather, sunny, rainy, raining, shower, windy, snowy, cloudy, hot, warm, cold, storm, thunder, lightning, hail, sleet, snow, icy, frost, puddles, rainbow, seasons, winter, summer,	living, dead, never been alive, suited, suitable, basic needs, food, food chain, shelter, move, feed, water, air, survive, survival, names of local habitats (e.g. pond, woodland etc.), names of micro-habitats (e.g. under logs, in bushes etc.), conditions, light, dark, shady, sunny, wet, damp, dry, hot, cold, names of living things in the habitats and micro-habitats studied light, shade, Sun, warm, cool, water, space, grow, healthy, bulb, germinate, shoot, seedling (Y2 - Plants) offspring, reproduction, growth, baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult, old person, names of animals and their babies (e.g.	photosynthesis, pollen, insect/wind pollination, male, female, seed formation, seed dispersal (e.g. wind dispersal, animal dispersal, water dispersal), air, nutrients, minerals, soil, absorb, transport	classification, classification keys, environment, habitat, human impact, positive, negative, migrate, hibernate herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, producer, predator, prey (Y4 - Animals, including humans)	life cycle, reproduce, sexual, sperm, fertilises, egg, live young, metamorphosis, asexual, plantlets, runners, cuttings	vertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, warm-blooded, cold-blooded, invertebrates, insects, spiders, snails, worms, flowering, non-flowering, mosses, ferns, conifers

		spring, autumn, Sun, sunrise, sunset, day length (Y1 - Seasonal changes)	chick/chicken, cat/kitten, caterpillar/butterfly) (Y2 - Animals, including humans)				
Animals, including humans	names of animals, live, on land, in water, jungle, desert, North Pole, South Pole, sea, hot, cold, wet, dry, snow, ice, hair (e.g. black, brown, dark, light, blonde, ginger, grey, white, long, short, straight, curly), eyes (e.g. blue, brown, green, grey), skin (e.g. black, brown, white), big/tall, small/short, bigger/smaller, baby, toddler, child, adult, old person, old, young, brother, sister, mother, father, aunt, uncle, grandmother,	head, body, eyes, ears, mouth, teeth, leg, tail, wing, claw, fin, scales, feathers, fur, beak, paws, hooves, names of animals experienced first- hand from each vertebrate group, parts of the human body including those within the school's RSE policy, senses, touch, see, smell, taste, hear, fingers, skin, eyes, nose, ears, tongue	offspring, reproduction, growth, baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult, old person, names of animals and their babies (e.g. chick/chicken, kitten/cat, caterpillar/butterfly), survive, survival, water, food, air, exercise, heartbeat, breathing, hygiene, germs, disease, food types (e.g. meat, fish, vegetables, bread, rice, pasta, dairy) living, dead, never been alive, suited, suitable, basic needs, food, food chain, shelter, move, feed, water, air, survive, survival (Y2 - Living things and their habitats)	nutrition, nutrients, carbohydrates, sugars, protein, vitamins, minerals, fibre, fat, water, skeleton, bones, muscles, joints, support, protect, move, skull, ribs, spine	digestive system, digestion, mouth, teeth, saliva, oesophagus, stomach, small intestine, large intestine, rectum, anus, incisor, canine, molar, premolar, herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, producer, predator, prey	puberty, the vocabulary to describe sexual characteristics in line with the school's RSE policy life cycle, foetus, baby, child, adolescent, adult, reproduce, sexual, sperm, fertilises, egg, live young (Y5 - Living things and their habitats)	heart, pulse, rate, pumps, blood, blood vessels, transported, lungs, oxygen, carbon dioxide, cycle, circulatory system, diet, drugs, lifestyle

	grandfather, cousin, friend, family, boy, girl, man, woman						
Evolution and inheritance							offspring, sexual reproduction, vary, characteristics, adapted, inherited, species, evolve, evolution
Seasonal changes	spring, summer, autumn, winter, seasons, sunny, cloudy, hot, warm, cold, shower, raining, storm, thunder, lightning, hail, sleet, snow, icy, frost, puddles, windy, rainbow, animals, young, plants, flowers	weather, sunny, rainy, raining, shower, windy, snowy, cloudy, hot, warm, cold, storm, thunder, lightning, hail, sleet, snow, icy, frost, puddles, rainbow, seasons, winter, summer, spring, autumn, Sun, sunrise, sunset, day length					

Materials	ice, water, frozen, icicle, snow, melt, wet, cold, slippery, smooth, big, bigger, biggest, smaller, smaller, smallest, hard, soft, bendy, rigid, wood, plastic, paper, card, metal, strong, weak, hot, apply heat, waterproof, soggy, not waterproof, best, change, change back	object, material, wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, rock, brick, paper, fabric, elastic, foil, card/cardboard, rubber, wool, clay, hard, soft, stretchy, stiff, bendy, floppy, waterproof, absorbent, breaks/tears, rough, smooth, shiny, dull, see-through, not see-through	opaque, transparent, translucent, reflective, non-reflective, flexible, rigid, shape, push/pushing, pull/pulling, twist/twisting, squash/squashing, bend/bending, stretch/stretching	rock, stone, pebble, boulder, grain, crystals, layers, hard, soft, texture, absorbs water, fossil, bone, flesh, minerals, marble, chalk, granite, sandstone, slate, types of soil (e.g. peaty, sandy, chalky, clay) (Y3 - Rocks) magnetic force, magnet, attract, magnetic material, metal, iron, steel (Y3 - Forces and magnets)	solid, liquid, gas, heating, cooling, state change, melting, freezing, melting point, boiling, boiling point, evaporation, condensation, temperature, water cycle electrical conductor, electrical insulator, metal, non-metal (Y4 - Electricity)	thermal insulator/conductor, change of state, mixture, dissolve, solution, soluble, insoluble, filter, sieve, reversible/non-reversible change, burning, rusting, new material	
Rocks		object, material, rock, brick, clay, hard, soft, waterproof, absorbent, rough, smooth, shiny, dull, see-through, not see-through (Y1 - Everyday materials)	opaque, transparent, translucent, reflective, non-reflective (Y2 - Uses of everyday materials)	rock, stone, pebble, boulder, grain, crystals, layers, hard, soft, texture, absorbs water, fossil, bone, flesh, minerals, marble, chalk, granite, sandstone, slate, types of soil (e.g.			Evolution

				peaty, sandy, chalky, clay)			
Light	Sun, sunny, light, shadow, shady, clouds, torch, see-through, not see-through, source, light source	senses, see, eyes (Y1 - Animals, including humans) shiny, dull, see-through, not see-through (Y1 - Materials)	opaque, transparent, translucent, reflective, non-reflective (Y2 - Uses of everyday materials)	light, light source, dark, absence of light, surface, shadow, reflect, mirror, Sun, sunlight, dangerous			straight lines, light rays
Forces	float, sink, up, down, top, bottom, surface, move, roll, drop, fly, turn, spin, fall, fast, slow, faster, slower, fastest, slowest, further, furthest, wind, air, water, blow, bounce		flexible, rigid, shape, push/pushing, pull/pulling, twist/twisting, squash/squashing, bend/bending, stretch/stretching (Y2 - Uses of everyday materials)	force, push, pull, twist, contact force, non-contact force, magnetic force, magnet, strength, bar magnet, ring magnet, button magnet, horseshoe magnet, attract, repel, magnetic material, metal, iron, steel, poles, north pole, south pole		force, gravity, Earth, air resistance, water resistance, friction, mechanisms, simple machines, levers, pulleys, gears	

Sound	sound, noise, listen, hear, music, voices, bird song, traffic, sirens, thunder, high, low, loud, quiet, soft, volume, crackle, thunder, hum, buzz, roar	senses, hear, ear (Y1 - Animals, including humans)			sound, source, vibrate, vibration, travel, pitch (high, low), volume, faint, quiet, loud, insulation		
Electricity					electricity, electrical appliance/device, mains, plug, electrical circuit, complete circuit, component, cell, battery, positive, negative, connect/connections, loose connection, short circuit, crocodile clip, bulb, switch, buzzer, motor, conductor, insulator, metal, non-metal, symbol		circuit diagram, circuit symbol, voltage
Earth and space	Sun, Moon, Earth, star, planet, sky, day, night, space, round, bounce, float			light, light source, Sun, sunlight, dangerous (Y3 - Light)		Sun, Moon, Earth, planets (Mercury, Jupiter, Saturn, Venus, Mars, Uranus, Neptune), spherical, Solar System, rotate, star, orbit	