

Nursery to Reception Progression and Knowledge Organiser — Science (Understanding the World)



England Class	EYFS Curriculum: Development Matters — Understanding the World — 3-4 Year Olds				Progression towards ELG:			
Nursery	 Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. Plant seeds and care for growing plants. Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal. 				 Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants. Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter. 			
Curriculum	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2)	Summer 1	Summer 2	
Coverage (Examples)	Habitats. Can we find out what the animals from the story's house would normally look like? Where do acorns/conker come from? Looks at trees around the school.	What happens to the trees in the Autumn? Look at summer and autumn tree pictures and compare. Pick apples — make and decorate toffee apples	Watch video of firework display. How do they sound? Have you seen them before? Skittle experiment/Colours	Mix with	o oats feel. In water and Ivls and (malleable)	Gummy Bear experiment. What do we think might happen? Discuss as a group. Grow a sunflower at school & home	Ice tuff tray. Have large ice blocks in a tuff tray. Can the children find ways to melt them? Small group activity.	

Wales/Scotland	EYFS Curriculum: Development Matters — Understanding the World			Progression towards ELG:			
Classes					• Explore th	e natural world around t	:hem, making
	Explore the natural world around them				observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants.		
Reception	Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.			• Understand some important processes and changes in the			
	Recognise some envi	ironments that are differ	ent from the one they liv	e in.	natural world around them, including the seasons and		
	• Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.				changing states of matter.		
Curriculum Coverage (Examples)	Scavenger Hunt	Introduce / model magnifying glasses and bug pots with bug finder sheets.	What can you find? Where would be a good place to look? Why?	What d	al Crowns id you use? c of crowns.	Read the stickman story. Create a family of stick man using natural materials.	Play charades with creatures you may find in the WW area. Make a home for one of them

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	Animals including	Plants	Materials	Seasonal Changes	Forces, Earth and	Sound, Light and
	humans				Space	Electricity
Nursery	Head, toes, eyes, arm, nose, leg, mouth, knee, ears, elbow, hands, back, fingers, animal, feet, fish,	Tree, leaf, flower, trunk, seed, grow	Material, wood, plastic, paper, hard, soft, touch,	Day, rain, night, snow, dark, wind, light, sun, moon, hot, cold,	Earth, moon, sun, star	Loud, quiet, switch, light, dark
	bird	Petals, leaves, fruit, bulb, vegetables,	rock, glass, fabric, smooth, shiny, rough	Season, spring, summer, autumn,	Astronaut, space planets,	Volume, sound, noise, sunset, sunrise, shadow
Reception	Herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, human	shoot, branch, roots, stem		winter, weather		
Progression	of Scientific Knowle	dge				
	Working Scientifically		Animals Including Hum	ans	Plants	
Nursery	Beginning to ask 'how' or 'why'?		Compare and group ar	imals.	Compare plants and group them.	
	Make simple observations describing what can be seen. Beginning to compare using the language		Think about different e animals might live ther		Recognise that plants grow from seeds, and the life cycle of a plant	
'more' or 'less'		ggg.	between others and my	J.	Recognise that plants decompose.	
	Attempt to explain why something happens.		Name some parts of th	e body that can be	Explain the life cycle of a plant.	
Reception			Know that I grow from then to an adult.	a baby to a child and	Label parts of a plant.	