

Science Learning Outdoors

Throughout the year, some year groups will be undertaking some of their Science learning outdoors. Children will take their learning outside of their classroom and go around the school with a specific learning focus, e.g., observing plants or finding living things.

Please find relevant year group information underneath:

In Year 1:

Plants

While learning to name and identify plants, the pupils will be drawing on a range of different clues. Many plants change in appearance over the year – losing leaves, buds developing into flowers, flowers developing into seeds or berries. At any particular time, only some of these parts will be present. To ensure correct identification, all parts should be considered. Pupils will therefore visit the same plants throughout the year gathering additional clues for identification.

Seasonal change

Pupils will be gathering data about seasonal change regularly throughout the year. As part of this, they will be making observations about the weather and how this affects living things. They will then review the data that has been gathered at the end of the year.

In Year 2:

Living things and their habitats

While learning to name and identify plants, the pupils will be drawing on a range of different clues. Many plants change in appearance over the year – losing leaves, buds developing into flowers, flowers developing into seeds or berries. At any particular time, only some of these parts will be present. To ensure correct identification, all parts should be considered. Pupils will therefore visit the same plants throughout the year gathering additional clues for identification.

Animals visible in a habitat will change depending on the weather on the day and the season. In order to build up a full picture of the animals in a habitat, the habitat will be visited at different times throughout the year.

Plants

Seeds and bulbs will be planted at different times of the year (bulbs in Autumn and seeds, generally, in Spring). For these to reach full maturity, they need to complete their life cycle. This will be determined by the plant, not the time allocated to the topic. Once planted, the beds will be visited regularly to weed and make observations of growth.

In Year 3:

Plants

Many plants have an annual cycle – having buds, flowers, seeds/berries at certain times in the year. Pupils will therefore visit the same plants throughout the year gathering evidence linked to their life cycle e.g. collecting seeds and taking photographs or making observational drawings for buds, flowers etc. This evidence will be reviewed at the end of the year to exemplify a range of plants' life cycles.

In Year 4:**Living things and their habitats**

While learning to name and identify plants, the pupils should be drawing on a range of different clues. Many plants change in appearance over the year – losing leaves, buds developing into flowers, flowers developing into seeds or berries. At any particular time, only some of these parts will be present. To ensure correct identification, all parts should be considered. Pupils will therefore visit the same plants throughout the year gathering additional clues for identification. Animals visible in a habitat will change depending on the weather on the day and the season. In order to build up a full picture of the animals in a habitat, the habitat will be visited at different times throughout the year.