



Progression in Science Skills

	Caterpillars	Nursery	Reception	Year One	Year Two
Working Scientifically	Explore surroundings using all senses. Show curiosity and interest by facial expressions, movements or sounds. Begin to group objects e.g. cars, animals	Explore surroundings and begin to notice patterns and change. Begin to ask simple questions about what they have seen. Show curiosity and begin to link ideas.	Examine objects and living things to find out more about them. Ask simple questions about what they have seen. Show curiosity and begin to link ideas. Begin to use simple equipment. Begin to record findings.	Ask simple questions and recognise that they can be answered in different ways. Observe closely. Use simple equipment. Perform simple tests. Identify and classify. Use observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions. Collect and record data to help answer questions.	Ask simple questions and recognise that they can be answered in different ways. Observe closely. Use simple equipment. Perform simple tests. Identify and classify. Use observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions. Collect and record data to help answer questions.
Seasonal Changes	Aware of day and night. Aware of changes in the weather.	Aware of changes in the seasons. Aware of hot and cold. Chose appropriate clothing for summer and winter.	Notice changes in the weather and seasons and can talk about these changes	Explain changes across the four seasons. Describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies.	Explain changes across the four seasons. Describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies.
Plants	Shows an interest and comments about things in the garden.	Observe changes in plants over time. Begin to name some common plants.	Name some common plants. Observe plants and explain why some things occur over time.	Name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. Name and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants including trees.	Explain how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. Describe the life cycle of a plant. Describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.
Animals including Humans	Name some parts of the human body e.g. nose, hands	Name some basic human body parts. Begin to have an awareness of our senses. Begin to have awareness of healthy foods, importance of hand washing, exercise, rest.	Name the basic parts of the human body. Begin to name senses and be aware which body part it is associated with. Begin to have an awareness how to keep our bodies healthy (exercise, water, food, rest). Aware of the size of animals. Know where they are likely to find common animals.	Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals that live in hot and cold climates. Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals.	Name ways to look after a pet. Explain that animals, including humans have offspring which grow into adults. Explain basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air). Explain the importance of exercise, eating healthily and keeping clean.



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				Name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense. To compare and contrast the human body to another mammal.	Understands the life cycle of a human and compares the different stages.
Living Things and their Habitats	Shows an interest in the world in which they live.	Begin to be aware animals live in different homes.	Aware of different animal homes. Identify features of the place where they live.	Aware different animals live in different climates (hot and cold parts of the world)	Explain the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. Explain that most living things live in their habitats which suit them and depend on each other. Can compare habitats. Name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats. Explain how animals get their food from plants and other animals using a simple food chain.
Materials	Handles a variety of objects. Stretch, tear and squashes dough into shapes. Pours water to and from containers.	Aware objects can be made from different materials. Explore large variety of natural and manmade objects and textures and talk about what they find.	Sort and name materials such as wood, metal plastic. Compare materials which float and sink. Compare materials which are waterproof / not waterproof.	Identify + name everyday materials. Identify the difference between the object and the material it is made from. Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials. Identify which materials have certain properties.	Identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials for particular uses. Identify natural and man-made materials. Find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting, stretching.