



# Science at Hyde Park Junior School



## Intent

At Hyde Park Junior School, we know that science holds a prominent place in every child's education, and in their everyday life. Science underpins our understanding of the world and is an integral part of our lives, which makes it vital that children at our school develop a lifelong love for the subject. Whilst broadening children's understanding in science, we will promote collaboration, exploration, curiosity, discovery and investigation. Science at Hyde Park Junior School encourages children to be critical and reflective learners and inspires them to take risks and ask questions. We want our pupils to develop an innate sense of curiosity about the world around them and how things happen; this curiosity links closely with our school values.

Our science curriculum will develop both children's knowledge in scientific concepts alongside key investigative skills. It is our intention that scientific knowledge is delivered through practical lessons which give children the opportunity to develop their investigative skills. 'Working scientifically' is described separately in the science programme of study but must always be taught through and clearly related to the teaching of substantive science content. This allows children to develop a deeper understanding and fluency which can lead to mastery of the subject. Our science curriculum is tailored to our school and, although aligned with, goes beyond the National Curriculum.



## Implementation

At Hyde Park Junior School, science teaching and learning promotes ambition and endeavour by making real life links to scientists and engineers, in history and present day, and by reacting to current events. Over the course of Key Stage 2 pupils develop a greater understanding of how to work scientifically. We enable this by including different types of scientific enquiry in our teaching: observing over time; pattern seeking; identifying, classifying and grouping; comparative and fair testing; and scientific research. We encourage children to be curious and explorative in their learning, whilst reasoning and problem solving through practical investigations.

At Hyde Park Junior School, our science learning may be taught discretely, through Science or STEM weeks, or it may be linked into themed areas within our medium-term plans for each year group, for example Plants in Year 3 is linked to Rainforest in the Summer Term. It is important to think about ways in which children can be provided with opportunities to work scientifically using approaches to answer scientific questions. We want our children to build up and use technical terminology and specialist vocabulary. We also want our children to develop excitement and curiosity about how science can explain the world around them and could be used in the future. By linking science into our Topic areas, we can ensure a cross-curricular approach.



## Impact

Children's learning is monitored closely to inform future planning and children receive feedback continually and are given time to reflect on this to improve their understanding. Children take part in a school exhibition at the end of science week, where their work is presented and displayed for others to see.



## Progress

In KS2, we have a clear progression of National Curriculum objectives with some additional elements, separated into the three science areas: biology, chemistry and physics. We have a clear progression of skills and vocabulary to support children's progress and to support teacher's assessment in science. We use TAPS to ensure progression in working scientifically and to monitor enquiry skills.



## Cross Curricular Links

We aim to make meaningful cross-curricular links whenever we can. Science can be linked to many other subject areas. We make close links to geography, linking scientific processes to that of nature. We look at the history of areas of science, for example in Year 3 plants is linked to Rainforests in Geography. Maths and science have always had strong links and we also carefully plan this in to our practical sessions where data may be collected and analysed, for example.



## Local Link

At Hyde Park Junior school we believe that it is important, wherever possible to link to our locality and community. We have links with some secondary schools in the city and with the local University. We invite local outside agencies in, as well as visiting local exhibits, such as The Box Museum or The National Marine Aquarium, to enhance our science provision.

