



Knowledge and Understanding of the World – The Natural World

Year Group	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Reception	Seasonal Changes in Autumn and Winter	Seasonal Changes in Spring Investigating the school outdoor environment	Seasonal Changes in Summer Minibeasts, plants and animals
Key Threads	Seasons Weather	Seasons Weather Habitats Sustainability	Seasons Weather Habitats Life Processes Structure Sustainability
Year 1	The Human Body (5 weeks) Seasonal Changes Autumn (1 week) Materials (5 weeks) Seasonal Changes Winter (1 week)	Planting A (1 week) Animals (6 weeks) Caring for the Planet (S) (2 weeks) Seasonal Changes Spring (1 week) Planting B (1 week) Consolidation	Plants (5 weeks) Planting C (1 week) Growing and Cooking (S) (3 weeks) Seasonal Changes Summer (1 week) Consolidation
Key Threads	Four Seasons Weather Day length variation Property Material Life Processes Property Material	Four Seasons Weather Day length variation Structure Function Life Processes Sustainability	Four Seasons Weather Day length variation Structure Function Life Processes Habitat Sustainability
Year 2	Animal needs for survival (4 weeks) Humans (2 weeks) Materials (5 weeks) Plastics (S) (1 week)	Plants (light and dark) (3 weeks) Living things and their habitats (7 weeks) Light and dark (1 week) Consolidation (1 week)	Plants (bulbs and seeds) (2 weeks) Growing up (4 weeks) Bulbs and seeds (1 week) Growing up (1 week) Wildlife (2 weeks) (S) Consolidation (2 weeks)
Key Threads	Property Material Function Life Processes	Structure Function Life Processes Habitats	Structure Formation Life Processes Habitats

		Source Property Formation	
Year 3	Skeletons (3 weeks) Movement (1 week) Nutrition and diet (3 weeks) Food waste (S) (1 week) Rocks (3 weeks) Consolidation (1 week)	Fossils (2 weeks) Soils (3 weeks) Light (6 weeks) Consolidation (1 week)	Plants A (6 weeks) Forces (2 weeks) Magnets (2 weeks) Plants B (1 week) Biodiversity (S) (1 week)
Key Threads	Basic Needs Life Processes Property Structure Formation Source Sustainability	Property Structure Formation Source Sustainability	Force Life Cycle Function Structure Life Processes Source Property Sustainability
Year 4	Group and classify living things (3 weeks) Data collection A (1 week) States of Matter (7 weeks) Consolidation (1 week)	Sound (5 weeks) Data collection B (1 week) Electricity (4 weeks) Energy (S) (1 week) Consolidation (1 week)	Data collection C (2 weeks) Habitats (2 weeks) Deforestation (S) (1 week) The digestive system (5 weeks) Food chains (2 weeks)
Key Threads	Life Processes Classification Keys Material Function Structure Property Process	Source Formation Property Energy Function Sustainability	Habitats Life Processes Function Structure Classification Keys Sustainability
Year 5	Forces (5 weeks) Space (5 weeks) Global warming (S) (1 week) Consolidation (1 week)	Properties of Materials (4 weeks) Animals including humans (5 weeks) Life cycles (3 weeks)	Reproduction A (3 weeks) Reversible and irreversible changes (4 weeks) Plastic pollution (S) (1 week) Reproduction B (2 weeks) Consolidation (1 week)

Key Threads	Force Mechanism Solar System Sustainability	Life Processes Life cycle	Life Processes Life cycle Material Property Process Sustainability
Year 6	Living things and their habitats (6 weeks) Electricity (5 weeks) Renewable energy (S) (1 week)	Light (5 weeks) Light (A) (1 week) The circulatory system (3 weeks) Diet drugs and lifestyle (3 weeks)	Variation (2 weeks) Adaptations (4 weeks) Fossils (2 weeks) Consolidation (1 week) Themed Projects (Transition to Year 7)
Key Threads	Classification Energy Function Structure Sustainability	Source Property Process Function Structure Life Processes Sustainability	Adaptation Inheritance Property Structure Formation

Key Threads	Explanation
Seasons	One of four parts of the year: Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter
Weather	The conditions outside at a particular place and time
Variation	A slightly different form or version of something
Structure	An object made up of a number of parts joined together in a certain way
Function	The purpose or role that an object or a person fulfils or is suited for
Life Processes	There are seven essential processes in common: movement, respiration, sensitivity, growth, reproduction, excretion and nutrition or MRS GREN.
Basic Needs	Basic needs such as air, water, food and protection from environmental dangers are necessary for an organism to live.
Life Cycle	All animals, including humans, are born, they get older and bigger and some will go on to have children. In the end, all animals die.
Property	A quality that something is known by; characteristic.
Material	Anything used for building or making something else.

Process	A series of changes or acts that happen one after another.
Habitat	The natural environment of an animal or plant.
Classification	An order or group in which something is classified.
Force	The use of such power, energy, or strength to make something happen
Mechanism	The whole or parts of a machine, mechanical system, or device.
Formation	The way in which something is made.
Source	The start or cause of something.
Energy	The power or ability to make something work or be active.
Adaptation	The act or process of changing or adjusting something to fit in a new role or context.
Inheritance	The process of passing characteristics to later generations by genes or the characteristics passed in this way.
Solar System	The solar system consists of the Sun and everything that orbits, or travels around, the Sun.
Sustainability	Sustainability is the idea that humans must interact with the environment in a way that ensures there will be enough resources left for future generations.

Headstart Topic Tests

Year Group	Autumn	Spring	Summer
1	Everyday Materials	Animals including humans	Plants Seasonal Changes
2	Animals including humans Uses of everyday materials	Living things and their habitats	Plants
3	Animals including humans Rocks?	Light Rocks?	Forces and magnets Plants
4	Living things and their habitats? States of matter	Electricity Sound	Animals including humans Living things and their habitats?
5	Earth and Space Forces	Animals including humans Living things and their habitats?	Living things and their habitats? Properties and changes of materials
6	Electricity Living things and their habitats	Animals including humans? Light	Animals including humans? Evolution and inheritance