

Science vocabulary progression

NB Previously taught vocabulary in green

	EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Plants (Biology)		Leaf, flower, blossom, petal, fruit, berry, root, seed, trunk, branch, stem, bark, stalk, bud Names of trees in the local area Names of garden and wild flowering plants in the local area deciduous evergreen	As for Year 1 plus light, shade, sun, warm, cool, water, grow, healthy, germinate, temperature, change	Photosynthesis, pollen, insect/wind pollination, seed formation, seed dispersal (wind dispersal, animal dispersal, water dispersal)			
Living things and their habitats (Biology)			Living, dead, never been alive, suited, suitable, basic needs, food, food chain, shelter, move, feed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Names of local habitats e.g. pond, woodland etc. Names of micro-habitats e.g. under logs, in bushes etc. 		Classification, classification keys, environment, habitat, human impact, positive, negative, migrate, hibernate	Life cycle, reproduce, sexual, sperm, fertilises, egg, live young, metamorphosis, asexual, plantlets, runners, bulbs, cuttings	Vertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, invertebrates, insects, spiders, snails, worms, flowering, non-flowering
Animals including humans (Biology)		Head, body, eyes, ears, mouth, teeth, leg, tail, wing, claw, fin, scales, feathers, fur, beak, paws, hooves <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Names of animals experienced first-hand from each vertebrate group Parts of the body - head, neck, arms, elbows, legs, knees, face, ears, eyes, hair, mouth, teeth, Senses – touch, see, smell, taste, hear, fingers (skin), eyes, nose, ear and tongue 	Offspring, reproduction, growth, child, young/old stages (examples - chick/hen, baby/child/adult, caterpillar/butterfly), exercise, heartbeat, breathing, hygiene, germs, disease, food types (examples – meat, fish, vegetables, bread, rice, pasta)	Nutrition, nutrients, carbohydrates, sugars, protein, vitamins, minerals, fibre, fat, water, skeleton, bones, muscles, support, protect, move, skull, ribs, spine, muscles, joints	Digestive system, digestion, mouth, teeth, saliva, oesophagus, stomach, small intestine, nutrients, large intestine, rectum, anus, teeth, incisor, canine, molar, premolars, herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, producer, predator, prey, food chain	Puberty – the vocabulary to describe sexual characteristics	Heart, pulse, rate, pumps, blood, blood vessels, transported, lungs, oxygen, carbon dioxide, nutrients, water, muscles, cycle, circulatory system, diet, exercise, drugs, lifestyle
Evolution and inheritance (Biology)							Offspring, sexual reproduction, vary, characteristics, suited, adapted, environment, inherited, species, fossils

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Seasonal changes (Physics)		Weather (sunny, rainy, windy, snowy etc.) Seasons (winter, summer, spring, autumn) Sun, sunrise, sunset, day length					
Materials (Chemistry)		Object, material, wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, rock, brick, paper, fabric, elastic, foil, card/cardboard, rubber, wool, clay, hard, soft, stretchy, stiff, bendy, floppy, waterproof, absorbent, breaks/tears, rough, smooth, shiny, dull, see-through, not see-through	Names of materials – wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper, cardboard Properties of materials – as for Year 1 plus opaque, transparent and translucent, reflective, non-reflective, flexible, rigid Shape, push/pushing, pull/pulling, twist/twisting, squash/squashing, bend/bending, stretch/stretching		Solid, liquid, gas, state change, melting, freezing, melting point, boiling point, evaporation, temperature, water cycle	Thermal/electrical insulator/conductor, change of state, mixture, dissolve, solution, soluble, insoluble, filter, sieve, reversible/non-reversible change, burning, rusting, new material	
Rocks (Chemistry)				Rock, stone, pebble, boulder, grain, crystals, layers, hard, soft, texture, absorb water, soil, fossil, marble, chalk, granite, sandstone, slate, soil, peat, sandy/chalk/clay soil			
Light (Physics)				Light, light source, dark, absence of light, transparent, translucent, opaque, shiny, matt, surface, shadow, reflect, mirror, sunlight, dangerous			As for Year 3 - Light, plus straight lines, light rays
Forces (Physics)				Force, push, pull, twist, contact force, non-contact force, magnetic force, magnet, strength, bar magnet, ring magnet, button magnet, horseshoe magnet, attract, repel, magnetic material, metal, iron, steel, poles, north pole, south pole		Force, gravity, Earth, air resistance, water resistance, friction, mechanisms, simple machines, levers, pulleys, gears	
Sound (Physics)					Sound, source, vibrate, vibration, travel, pitch (high, low), volume, faint, loud, insulation		
Electricity (Physics)					Electricity, electrical appliance/device, mains, plug, electrical circuit, complete circuit, component, cell, battery, positive, negative, connect/connections, loose connection, short circuit, crocodile clip, bulb, switch, buzzer, motor, conductor, insulator, metal, non-metal, symbol		Circuit, complete circuit, circuit diagram, circuit symbol, cell, battery, bulb, buzzer, motor, switch, voltage N.B. Children do not need to understand what voltage is, but will use volts and voltage to describe different batteries. The words "cells" and "batteries" are now used interchangeably.
Earth and space (Physics)						Earth, Sun, Moon, (Mercury, Jupiter, Saturn, Venus, Mars, Uranus, Neptune), spherical, solar system, rotates, star, orbit, planets	
Key skills linked to knowledge	Talk about, make observations, know about, explain	Observe, describe, identify, compare, name, distinguish between,	Observe, describe, identify, explore, find out, compare, notice, name,	Predict, compare, group, observe, notice, recognise, find patterns, explore, investigate	Recognise, construct, identify, find patterns, observe, compare, group, explore,	Describe, recognise, identify, explain, demonstrate, give reasons, use knowledge, compare, group,	Compare, give reasons, associate, explain, recognise, identify, describe,