

Science in the Early Years



Key Knowledge

- To know the names of different body parts and some functions and 5 senses.
- To identify and sort healthy and unhealthy food.
- To identify similarities and differences between themselves and peers.
- To know that humans, animals and plants grow and change over time.
- To know different creatures live in different places and natural habitats.
- To recognise a range of materials and observe how materials change on heating and cooling.
- To explore shadows, rainbows, light sources.
- To explore how objects and materials are affected by forces.

Key Experiences

- Observing, drawing, labelling, investigating, baking, cooking.
- Talking about similarities and differences and making comparisons.
- Talking about why things happen.
- Observing and sequencing life cycles.
- Field trip visits to wetlands, woodland, farm, park to explore the natural world.
- Talking about changes over time.
- Making predictions, giving explanations, asking simple questions.
- Carrying out simple investigations or tests.

Vocabulary

Baby, child, teenager, adult, body parts, farm, wild, habitat, grow, humans, living thing, forest, safari, jungle, wetland, sun, water, similar, same, different, healthy, unhealthy, fruit, vegetables, material, wood, metal, plastic, rock, rough, smooth, hard, soft, ground, soil, seeds, bulb, life cycle, environment, fish, animal, bird, reptile, amphibians, space, transport, polar regions.

Preparation for Year 1

- Use observations to suggest answers to questions.
- Making simple predictions about what might happen.
- Talking about the results in a simple test.
- Finding out how plants need water and light to grow.
- Observing and talking about plants, animals and natural objects.
- Describing seasonal change in plants and animals.
- Naming a variety of everyday materials – wood, glass, plastic, metal, rock.
- Recognising the importance of exercise and healthy eating.