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0-3 Understanding the World

Explore materials with different properties. Explore natural materials, indoors and outside.

Explore and respond to different natural phenomena in their setting and on trips.

3-4 Understanding the World

Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials. Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties. Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.

Plant seeds and care for growing plants. Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal. Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things

Explore and talk about different forces they can feel.

Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice.

ELG Understanding the World

The Natural World ELG

Children at the expected level of development will: Explore the natural world around them, making
observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants; Know some similarities and differences between the
natural world around them and contrasting environments,
drawing on their experiences and what has been read in
class; - Understand some important processes and changes
in the natural world around them, including the seasons
and changing states of matter.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Working	To use the following	To use the following	To use the following	To use the following	To use the following	To use the following
Scientifically	practical scientific	practical scientific	practical scientific	practical scientific	practical scientific	practical scientific
	methods, processes	methods, processes	methods, processes	methods, processes	methods, processes	methods, processes
	and skills (adult	and skills with	and skills.	and skills	and skills	and skills
	support may be	increasing				
	needed).	confidence.				
Questioning and	Ask simple questions	Ask questions about	Ask some relevant	Ask relevant	Begin to plan	Plan different types
enquiring planning	about the world	the world around us.	questions and use	questions and use	different types of	of scientific enquiries
	around us. Begin to	Recognise that they	different types of	different types of	scientific enquiries to	to answer questions,
	recognise that they	can be answered in	scientific enquiry to	scientific enquiries to	answer questions,	including recognising
	can be answered in	different ways.	answer them.	answer them. Explore	including recognising	and controlling
	different ways.	Different types of	Begin to explore	everyday phenomena	and controlling	variables where
	Different types of	enquiry including -	everyday phenomena		variables where	necessary. Explore

and the relationships

enquiry including observing changes over time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying, carrying out simple comparative tests, finding out things from secondary sources.

I can ask a few simple questions about the world around us.

I can begin to use some different types of enquiry to answer questions. observing changes over time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying, carrying out simple comparative tests, finding things out from secondary sources.

I can ask simple questions about the world around us.

I can begin to use different types of enquiry to answer questions. between living things and familiar environments. Begin to develop their ideas about functions, relationships and interactions. Begin to raise their own questions about the world around them. Begin to make some decisions about which types of enquiry will be the best way of answering questions including observing changes over time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying, carrying out simple comparative and fair tests, finding things out using secondary sources.

I can ask some relevant questions about the world around us.

I can use some different types of scientific enquiry to answer questions. and the relationships between living things and familiar environments. Begin to develop their ideas about functions, relationships and interactions. Raise their own questions about the world around them. Make some decisions about which types of enquiry will be the best way of answering questions including observing changes over time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying, carrying out simple comparative and fair tests, finding things out using secondary sources.

I can ask relevant questions about the world around us.

I can use different types of scientific enquiry to answer questions.

necessary. Begin to explore and talk about ideas, ask their own questions about scientific phenomena, analyse functions, relationships and interactions more systematically. Begin to recognise some more abstract ideas and begin to recognise how these ideas help them to understand how the world operates. Begin to recognise scientific ideas change and develop over time. Begin to select the most appropriate ways to answer science questions using different types of scientific enquiry (including observing changes over different periods of time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying, carrying out comparative and fair tests and finding things out using a

and talk about ideas, ask their own questions about scientific phenomena, analyse functions, relationships and interactions more systematically. Begin to recognise more abstract ideas and begin to recognise how these ideas help them to understand how the world operates. Begin to recognise scientific ideas change and develop over time. Select the most appropriate ways to answer science questions using different types of scientific enquiry (including observing changes over different periods of time, noticing patterns, grouping and classifying, carrying out comparative and fair tests and finding things out using a

			I am beginning to decide which type of enquiry is best to answer my question.	I am beginning to decide which type of enquiry is best to answer my question.	wide range of secondary sources of information.) I am beginning to explore ideas and ask my own questions about scientific phenomena. I am beginning to plan different	wide range of secondary sources of information.) I can explore ideas and ask my own questions about scientific phenomena. I can plan different types of scientific
					types of scientific enquiry to answer questions. I am beginning to decide which variables to control.	enquiry to answer questions. I can decide which variables to control.
Observing and measuring pattern seeking	Begin to observe closely, using simple equipment. Use simple observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions. To observe simple changes over time and, with guidance, begin to notice patterns and relationships. To say what I am looking for and what I am measuring. To know how to use simple equipment safely. Use simple	Observe closely, using simple equipment. Use observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions. To observe changes over time and, with guidance, begin to notice patterns and relationships. To say what I am looking for and what I am measuring. To know how to use simple equipment safely. Use simple measurements and equipment with	Begin to make systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, take accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers. Begin to look for naturally occurring patterns and relationships and decide what data	Make systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, take accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers. Begin to look for naturally occurring patterns and relationships and decide what data to collect to identify	Begin to take measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings where appropriate. Begin to identify patterns that might be found in the natural environment. Begin to make their own decisions about what observations to make, what measurements to use and how long to	Take measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings where appropriate. Identify patterns that might be found in the natural environment. Make their own decisions about what observations to make, what measurements to use and how long to make them for and

measurements and equipment with support (eg hand lenses and egg timers) Begin to progress from nonstandard units, reading cm, m, cl, l, °C.

I can begin to observe changes over time.

I can begin say what I am looking for and what I am measuring.

I can measure with non-standard units and can begin to use simple standard units eg, mm, cm, m, ml, I, °C.

I can use some simple equipment eg hand lenses, egg timers. increasing independence (eg hand lenses and egg timers). Begin to progress from non-standard units, reading mm, cm, m, ml, l, °C.

I can observe changes over time.

I can say what I am looking for and what I am measuring.

I can measure with non-standard units and can begin to use simple standard units eg, mm, cm, m, ml, I, 2C

I can use simple equipment eg hand lenses, egg timers. to collect to identify them. Help to make decisions about what observations to make, how long to make them for and the type of simple equipment that might be used. Learn to use some new equipment appropriately (eg data loggers). Begin to see a pattern in my results. Begin to choose from a selection of equipment. Begin to observe and measure accurately using standard units including time in minutes and seconds.

I can make systematic and careful observations.

I can decide what to observe and how long to collect observations.

I can take accurate measurements

them. Help to make decisions about what observations to make, how long to make them for and the type of simple equipment that might be used. Learn to use new equipment appropriately (eg data loggers). Can see a pattern in my results.

I can choose from a selection of equipment.

I can observe and measure accurately using standard units including time in minutes and seconds.

I can make systematic and careful observations. I can decide what to observe and how long to collect observations.

I can take accurate measurements using standard.

make them for and whether to repeat them. Choose the most appropriate equipment and explain how to use it accurately. Begin to interpret data and find patterns. Select equipment on my own. Can make a set of observations and say what the interval and range are.

Begin to take accurate and precise measurements – N, g, kg, mm, cm, mins, seconds, cm²V, km/h, m per sec, m/ sec Graphs – pie, line

I can make accurate and precise measurements.

I can decide what to observe, how long to observe for and whether to repeat them.

I can take accurate and precise

whether to repeat them. Choose the most appropriate equipment and explain how to use it accurately.

I can interpret data and find patters

I can select equipment on my own.

I can make a set of observations and say what the interval and range are. I can use acurate and precise measurements

– N, g, kg, mm, cm, mins, seconds,ns. cm²V, km/h, m per sec, m/ sec Graphs – pie, line, bar (Year 6)

I can make accurate and precise measurements.

I can decide what to observe, how long to observe for and whether to repeat them.

			using standard units		measurements using	
			eg. mm, cm, m, ml, l,		standard units.	I can take accurate
			eg. mm, cm, m, mi, i,		Stanuaru ullits.	and precise
			-c, seconds, minutes.		N a ka mm om	•
					N, g, kg, mm, cm,	measurements using
					mins, seconds, cm ² V,	standard units
					km/h, m per sec, m/	N, g, kg, mm, cm,
					sec.	mins, seconds,
					t and antique	cm ² V, km/h, m per
					I can select	sec, m/ sec.
					equipment on my	
					own and can explain	I can select
					how to use it	equipment on my
					accurately.	own and can explain
						how to use it
						accurately.
Investigating	Perform simple tests	Perform simple tests.	Set up some simple	Set up simple	Begin to use test	Begin to use test
	with support. To	To discuss my ideas	practical enquiries,	practical enquiries,	results to make	results to make
	begin to discuss my	about how to find	comparative and fair	comparative and fair	predictions to set up	predictions to set up
	ideas about how to	things out. To say	tests. Begin to	tests. Recognise	further comparative	further comparative
	find things out. To	what happened in	recognise when a	when a simple fair	and fair tests. Begin	and fair tests. Begin
	begin to say what	my investigation.	simple fair test is	test is necessary and	to recognise when	to recognise when
	happened in my		necessary and help to	help to decide how to	and how to set up	and how to set up
	investigation.	I can perform simple	decide how to set it	set it up. Can think of	comparative and fair	comparative and fair
		tests.	up. Begin to think of	more than one	tests and explain	tests and explain
	I can begin to		more than one	variable factor.	which variables need	which variables need
	perform	I can discuss my	variable factor.		to be controlled and	to be controlled and
	simple tests.	ideas.		I can set up simple	why. Begin to suggest	why. Begin to suggest
	I can begin to discuss		I can set up some	practical	improvements to	improvements to my
	my ideas.	I can say what	simple practical		my method and give	method and give
		happened	enquiries. Including	enquiries. Including	reasons. Begin to	reasons. Begin to
	I can begin to say	in an investigation.	comparative and	comparative	decide when it is	decide when it is
	what happened in an		fair tests.	and fair tests.	appropriate to do a	appropriate to do a
	investigation.		I am beginning to	I can help decide	fair test.	fair test.
			help decide which	which variables	I can sometimes set	
			variables to keep the	to keep the same and	up a range of	I can sometimes set
			same and which	which to		up a range of

			to change.	change.	comparative and fair tests.	comparative and fair tests.
					I am beginning to explain which variables need to be	I am beginning to explain which variables need to be
					controlled and why.	controlled and why.
					I am beginning to	
					suggest	I am beginning to
					improvements to my test, giving reasons.	suggest improvements to my
					test, giving reasons.	test, giving reasons.
Recording and	Gather and record	Gather and record	Gather, record, and	Gather, record,	Begin to record data	Record data and
reporting findings	data with some adult	data to help in	begin to classify and	classify and present	and results of	results of increasing
	support, to help in	answering questions.	present data in a	data in a variety of	increasing complexity	complexity using
	answering questions.	Record simple data.	variety of ways to	ways to help in	using scientific	scientific diagrams
	Begin to record	Record and	help in answering	answering questions.	diagrams and labels,	and labels,
	simple data. Begin to	communicate their	questions. Begin to	Record findings using	classification keys,	classification keys,
	record and	findings in a range of	record findings using	simple scientific	tables and bar and	tables and bar and
	communicate their	ways.	simple scientific	language, drawings,	line graphs. Begin to	line graphs. Report
	findings in a range of		language, drawings,	labelled diagrams,	report and present	and present findings
	ways. Can show my	I can show my results	labelled diagrams,	keys, bar charts and	findings from	from enquiries.
	results in a simple	in a table that my	keys, bar charts and	tables. Report on	enquiries. Begin to	Decide how to record
	table that my teacher	teacher has provided.	tables. Begin to	findings from	decide how to record	data from a choice of
	has provided. I can	Lean callest simula	report on findings	enquiries, including oral and written	data from a choice of	familiar approaches.
	begin to collect	I can collect simple data.	from enquiries, including oral and	explanations, displays	familiar approaches. Begin to choose how	I can choose how best
	simple data.	udtd.	written explanations,	or presentations of	best to present data.	to present data.
	I can begin to record	I can record data in a	displays or	results and	best to present data.	to present data.
	data in a table my	table my teacher has	presentations of	conclusions. Use	I am beginning to	I can record data and
	teacher has provided.	provided.	results and	notes, simple tables	record data and	results of increasing
	teacher has provided.	provided.	conclusions. Begin to	and standard units	results of increasing	complexity using –
	I can begin to	I can communicate	use notes, simple	and help to decide	complexity using –	scientific diagrams
	communicate my	my findings in a	tables and standard	how to record and	scientific diagrams	and labels
	findings in a variety of	variety of ways.	units and help to	analyse their data.	and labels,	classification keys,

	wows		decide how to record		alassification bases	tobles have supplied as all
	ways.		and analyse their	I can record results in	classification keys, tables, bar graphs,	tables, bar graphs and line graphs.
			•	tables and bar charts.		line graphs.
			data. Begin to record results in tables and	tables and bar charts.	line graphs.	I can choose how best
				I can collect data in a	Laus basinning to	
			bar charts.		I am beginning to	to present data.
				variety of ways,	choose how best to	
			I am beginning to	including labelled	present data.	I can communicate
			collect data in a	diagrams, bar charts		findings using
			variety of ways,	and tables.	I am beginning to	detailed scientific
			including labelled		communicate findings	language.
			diagrams, bar charts	I can help decide how	using detailed	
			and tables.	to record data.	scientific language.	
			I am beginning to	I can communicate		
			help decide how to	findings using simple		
			record data.	scientific language		
				00		
			I am beginning to			
			communicate findings			
			using simple scientific			
			language.			
Identifying,	Identify and classify	Identify and classify.	Begin to identify	Identify differences,	Begin to use and	Use and develop keys
grouping and	with some support.	Observe and identify,	differences,	similarities or	develop keys and	and other
classifying	To begin to observe	compare and	similarities or	changes related to	other information	information records
	and identify, compare	describe. Use simple	changes related to	simple scientific ideas	records to identify,	to identify, classify
	and describe. To	features to compare	simple scientific ideas	and processes. Talk	classify and describe	and describe living
	begin to use simple	objects, materials and	and processes. Begin	about criteria for	living things and	things and materials.
	features to compare	living things and, with	to talk about criteria	grouping, sorting and	materials.	I can use keys and
	objects, materials and	help, decide how to	for grouping, sorting	classifying and use		other information
	living things and, with	sort and group them.	and classifying and	simple keys. Compare	I am beginning to use	records to classify
	help, decide how to		use simple keys.	and group according	keys and other	and describe living
	sort and group them.	I can identify a variety	Begin to compare and	to behaviour or	information records	things, materials and
		of objects, materials	group according to	properties, based on	to classify and	other scientific
	I can begin to identify	and living things.	behaviour or	testing.	describe living things,	phenomena.
	a variety of objects,					

	materials and living things. I can begin to compare, sort and group a range of objects, materials and living things.	I can compare, sort and group a range of objects, materials and living things	properties, based on testing. I am beginning to talk about and identify differences and similarities in the properties or behaviour of living things, materials and other scientific phenomena. I am beginning to identify simple changes related to simple scientific phenomena. I am beginning to discuss criteria for grouping and sorting and can classify using	I can talk about and identify differences and similarities in the properties or behaviour of living things, materials and other scientific phenomena. I can identify simple changes related to simple scientific phenomena. I can discuss criteria for grouping and sorting and can classify using simple keys.	materials and other scientific phenomena. I am beginning to develop my own keys and other information records to classify and describe. I am beginning to identify changes related to scientific phenomena.	I can develop my own keys and other information records to classify and describe. I can identify changes related to scientific phenomena.
Research	To begin to use simple secondary sources to find answers. To begin to find information to help me from books and computers with help. I can begin to find information to help me from books,	Use simple secondary sources to find answers. Can find information to help me from books and computers with help. I can find information to help me from books, computers and other familiar sources.	simple keys. Begin to recognise when and how secondary sources might help to answer questions that cannot be answered through Practical investigations. I can begin to decide when research will help in my enquiry.	Begin to recognise when and how secondary sources might help to answer questions that cannot be answered through practical investigations. I can begin to decide when research will help in my enquiry.	Begin to recognise which secondary sources will be most useful to research their ideas. I am beginning to recognise which secondary source will be most useful to my research.	Recognise which secondary sources will be most useful to research their ideas. I can recognise which secondary source will be most useful to my research.

	computers and other familiar sources.		I am beginning to	I can carry out simple	I can begin to carry out research	I can carry out research
			carry out simple research on my own.	research on my own.	independently.	independently.
Conclusions	Begin to talk about what they have found out and how they found it out. To begin to say what happened in my investigation. To begin to say whether I was surprised at the results or not. To begin to say what I would change about my investigation. I can begin to talk about what I have found out. I can begin to explain how I carried out my enquiry.	Talk about what they have found out and how they found it out. To say what happened in my investigation. To say whether I was surprised at the results or not. To say what I would change about my investigation. I can talk about what I have found out. I can explain how I carried out my enquiry. I can suggest simple	I am beginning to use results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions. Am beginning to use straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings. With help, am beginning to look for changes, patterns, similarities and differences in their data in order to draw simple conclusions and answer	Using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions. Use straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings. With help, look for changes, patterns, similarities and differences in their data in order to draw simple conclusions and answer questions. With support, identify new questions arising	Am beginning to report and present findings from enquiries , including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations. Begin to identify scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments. Begin to draw conclusions based on their data and observations, use evidence to justify	Reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations. Identify scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments. Draw conclusions based on their data and observations, use evidence to justify their ideas, use
	I can begin to suggest simple changes to my enquiry.	changes to my enquiry.	questions. With support, am beginning to identify new questions arising from the data, make new predictions and find ways of improving what they have already done.	from the data, make new predictions and find ways of improving what they have already done. Can see a pattern in my results. Can say what I found out, linking cause and	their ideas, use scientific knowledge and understanding to explain their findings. Begin to use test results to make predictions to set up further comparatives and fair tests. Begin to look for different	scientific knowledge and understanding to explain their findings. Use test results to make predictions to set up further comparatives and fair tests. Look for different causal

Am beginning to see a pattern in my results. Am beginning to say what I found out, linking cause and effect. Am beginning to say how I could make it better. Am beginning to answer questions from what I have found out.

I am beginning to draw simple conclusions based on the results of my enquiry.

I am beginning to answer my questions using the results of my enquiry.

I am beginning to use my findings to make new predictions, suggest improvements and think of new questions.

I am beginning sometimes to think of cause and effect in my explanations. effect. Can say how I could make it better. Can answer questions from what I have found out.

I can draw simple conclusions based on the results of my enquiry.

I can answer my questions using the results of my enquiry.

I can use my findings to make new predictions, suggest improvements and think of new questions.

I can begin to think of cause and effect in my explanations.

causal relationships in their data and identify evidence that refutes or supports their ideas. Use their results to identify when further tests and observations are needed. Begin to separate opinion from fact. Begin to draw conclusions and identify scientific evidence. Can use simple models. Know which evidence proves a scientific point. Begin to use test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests.

I am beginning to draw scientific, causal conclusions using the results of an enquiry to justify my ideas.

I am beginning to explain my conclusion using scientific knowledge and understanding.

relationships in their data and identify evidence that refutes or supports their ideas. Use their results to identify when further tests and observations are needed. Separate opinion from fact. Can draw conclusions and identify scientific evidence. Can use simple models. Know which evidence proves a scientific point. Use test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests.

I can draw scientific, causal conclusions using the results of an enquiry to justify my ideas.

I can explain my conclusion using scientific knowledge and understanding.

I can distinguish opinion and facts.

					I am beginning to distinguish opinion and facts. I am beginning to use my findings to make predictions and set up further enquiries. I can begin to use abstract models to explain my ideas.	I can use my findings to make predictions and set up further enquiries I can begin to use abstract models to explain my ideas.
Vocabulary	Use some simple scientific language. Begin to use some science words. Use comparative language with support. I can begin to use simple scientific language. I can begin to describe what I see eg something is long. I can begin to compare eg something is longer or shorter.	Use some simple scientific language. Begin to use some science words. Use comparative language with support. I can begin to use simple scientific language. I can begin to describe what I see eg something is long. I can begin to compare eg something is longer or shorter.	Begin to use some scientific language to talk and, later, write about what they have found out. Begin to use relevant scientific language. Begin to use comparative and superlative language. I am beginning to use some scientific language in my work. I am beginning to describe my observations and my findings I am beginning to use comparative and superlative descriptions eg longer	Use some scientific language to talk and, later, write about what they have found out. Use relevant scientific language. Use comparative and superlative language I can use some scientific language in my work. I can describe my observations and my findings I can use comparative and superlative descriptions eg longer / shorter than, longest / shortest.	Am beginning to read, spell and pronounce scientific vocabulary correctly. Am beginning to use relevant scientific language and illustrations to discuss, communicate and justify scientific ideas. Am beginning to confidently use a range of scientific vocabulary. Am beginning to use conventions such as trend, rogue result, support prediction and -er word generalisation. Am beginning to use scientific ideas when describing simple	Read, spell and pronounce scientific vocabulary correctly. Use relevant scientific language. And illustrations to discuss, communicate and justify scientific ideas. Can confidently use a range of scientific vocabulary. Can use conventions such as trend, rogue result, support prediction and -er word generalisation. Can use scientific ideas when describing simple processes. Can use the correct science vocabulary

			/ shorter than,	I can begin to	processes. Am	I can read, spell and
			longest / shortest.	describe cause and	beginning to use the	pronounce scientific
				effect.	correct science	vocabulary correctly.
			I can begin to		vocabulary.	
			describe cause and			I can confidently use
			effect.		I am beginning to	the correct scientific
					read, spell and	language when
					pronounce scientific	appropriate.
					vocabulary correctly.	
						I can explain my ideas
					I am beginning to	with scientific
					confidently use the	reasons.
					correct scientific	
					language when	I can use scientific
					appropriate.	conventions eg
						trends, rogue result,
					I am beginning to	support prediction.
					explain my ideas with	
					scientific reasons.	
					I am beginning to use	
					scientific conventions	
					eg trends, rogue	
					result, support	
					prediction.	
Understanding	Can begin to talk	Can talk about how	Begin to know which	Knows which things in	Am beginning to talk	Can talk about how
	about how science	science helps us in	things in science have	science have made	about how scientific	scientific ideas have
	helps us in our daily	our daily lives eg.	made our lives better.	our lives better. Can	ideas have changed	changed over time.
	lives eg Torches and	torches and lights	Can begin to	understand there is	over time. Am	Can explain the
	lights help us see hen	help us see hen it is	understand risk in	some risk in science.	beginning to explain	positive and negative
	it is dark. Am	dark. Am beginning to	science.		the positive and	effects of scientific
	beginning to	understand science		I know some things in	negative effects of	development. Can
	understand science	can sometimes be	I am beginning to	science which have	scientific	see how science is
	can sometimes be	dangerous.	know which things in	made our lives better	development. Am	useful in everyday
	dangerous.		science have made	eg computers in	beginning to see how	life. Can say which
		I can say how science	our lives better eg	schools, hospitals etc	science is useful in	parts of our lives rely

developments.
