

Darley Dene Primary School - Science Progression

Intent: The Science curriculum encompasses the essential knowledge and skills to enable children to be enquiry-led learners. Throughout their learning journey, the children will gain the skills and understanding that encourage them to think scientifically as well as use and apply their new knowledge to the wider world. We inspire the children to delve into their own curiosities and find ways to solve scientific based questions; they do this by developing their skills, such as: observations, planning and investigations to find their answers.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6				
Working Scien	Norking Scientifically										
Use all their	Observe their	Build upon	Confidently ask	Ask relevant	Ask relevant	Plan different	Can effectively				
senses in	surroundings	their EYFS	simple	questions and	questions and	types of	plan different				
hands-on	and	knowledge of	questions to aid	use different	use different	scientific	types of scientific				
exploration	answer	asking simple	their curiosity	types of	types of	enquiries to	enquiries to				
of natural	simple	questions and	and continue	scientific	scientific	answer	answer questions,				
materials.	questions	begin to	to recognise	enquiries to	enquiries to	questions,	including				
	about what	recognise that	that they	answer them.	answer them.	which includes	recognising and				
	they have	they can be	can be	Set up simple		identifying and	controlling				
	seen.	answered	answered in	practical	Can they explain	controlling	variables where				
		in different	different ways.	enquiries,	why they would	variables.	necessary.				
	Make	ways.		comparative	use a certain						
	predictions		Can they	and fair tests.	type of enquiry,	Take	Can they explain				
	by asking	Observing	explain the		as opposed to	measurements,	why certain				
	simple	closely,	reasons for	Make	another?	using scientific	variables				
	questions	using simple	this?	systematic		equipment,	would need to be				
	about what	equipment.		and careful	Set up simple	with	controlled?				
	they have	Perform	Use their	observations	practical	increasing					

observed	simple tests.	knowledge of	and, where	enquiries,	accuracy and	Take
and further		observation to	appropriate,	comparative and	precision and	measurements,
this by	Can they	further their	taking	fair tests.	take repeat	using a range of
identifying	describe what	acute	accurate		readings when	scientific
how they	they hear, see,	understanding.	measurement	Can they use	appropriate.	equipment.
can find the	smell or taste		s using	their skills of:		
answer.	to help them?	Identify	standardunits.	observation,	Record data	Can they identify
		the simple		pattern-seeking,	and results of	why they have
Begin to	Identify and	equipment	Can they use a	grouping and	higher difficulty	selected certain
make	classify using	needed to do	range of	classifying to	using scientific	equipment?
comparisons	their	this.	equipment to	create these	diagrams and	
about their	observations	Perform simple,	do this?	enquiries?	labels,	They can do this
environment	and ideas to	comparative			classification	with increasing
and how it	suggest	tests and	Gather,	Make systematic	keys, tables,	accuracy and
might be	answers to	begin to	record,	and careful	scatter graphs,	precision and take
different	questions.	understand if	classify and	observations	bar and line	repeat readings
from		it is fair or not.	present data	and, where	graphs.	when they feel it
another.	Gather and	Does	in a variety of	appropriate,		is
	record data	their knowledge	ways to help	taking accurate	Can they	necessary to do
Explore the	to help in	of describing	in answering	measurements	explain	SO.
natural world	answering	what they can	questions.	using standard	patterns they	
around	questions.	hear, see, smell		units (N, g, kg,	may find?	Record data and
them.		or taste	Independently	mm, cm, mins,		results of higher
	Can they	influence this?	record	seconds)	Use test results	difficulty using
Recognise	record this		findings		to make	scientific diagrams
some	into a table	Identify and	using simple	They can	predictions to	and labels,
environment	or draw a	classify using	scientific	confidently use a	set up further	classification
s that are	picture?	their	language,	range of	comparative	keys, tables,
different to		observation	drawings,	equipment,	and fair tests.	scatter graphs, bar
the one in		skills.	labelled	including		and line graphs.

which they		diagrams,	thermometers	Report and	Can they
live.	Formulate ideas	keys,	and data loggers	present	explain the
	to	bar charts and	alongside this.	findings from	reasons
Explore the	suggest	tables.	-	enquiries.	why data would
natural world	answers to	Begin to	Gather, record,		be
around them,	questions.	report	classify and	This	recorded in
making		on findings	present data in a	includes	different
observations	Can they	from	variety of ways	conclusions,	ways?
and drawing	find similarities,	enquiries that	to help in	relationships	
pictures of	differences and	include oral	answering	and	Can they create
animals and	use	and	questions.	explanations	and answer
plants	pattern-seeking	written		and when to	Scientific
	to	explanations,	Independently	trust the	questions based
	support these	displays or	record findings	results.	on their evidence?
	answers?	presentations	using simple		
		of	scientific	Can they	Use test results to
	Gather and	results and	language,	present this	make predictions
	record data	conclusions.	drawings,	in oral and	to set up further
	to help in	Using results	labelled	written forms,	comparative and
	answering	to	diagrams, keys,	using relevant	fair tests.
	questions.	draw simple	bar charts and	scientific	
		conclusions,	tables.	language?	Can they identify
	With	make			and classify links
	support, can	predictions	Can they explain	Identify	between results?
	they	for new	why they	scientific	Can they explain
	identify the	values,	recorded it the	evidence that	why they would
	best way to	suggest	way they did?	has been	use test results
	record this	improvements		used to support	to further their
	data? (Text,	and raise	Confidently	or refute ideas	enquiry?
	diagrams,	further	report on	or arguments.	

	pictures,	questions.	findings from	Can they	Report and
	tables, simple	Identify	enquiries,	identify where	present findings
	graphs).	differences,	including oral	they would	from enquiries.
	0 1 /	similarities or	and written	, locate this	
		changes	explanations,	evidence?	This includes
		related	displays or		conclusions,
		to simple	presentations of		relationships and
		scientific ideas	' results and		explanations and
		and	conclusions.		when to trust the
		processes.			results.
		Begin to use	Observe for		
		straightforwar	changes,pattern		Can they can
		d	S		present this in oral
		scientific	and similarities		and written
		evidence to	and differences		forms?
		answer any	in data to find a		
		questions that	conclusion.		Can they
		they may not			explain why it
		be	From this, can		needs to be
		able to find	they create		presented in a
		out	further		certain way using
		through	questions		relevant scientific
		investigation.	in regards to the		language?
			analysed data?		
					Identify scientific
			How could they		evidence that has
			make the data		been used to
			more reliable?		support or refute
					ideas or
			Identify		arguments.

					differences, similarities or changes related to the children's own enquiry. Can they create a criteria that supports their scientific ideas and processes? Confidently use straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions, to support their findings or own ideas.	Can they use their knowledge of primary and secondary sources to identify if the evidence is reliable and explain their reasons for this?
Plants						
Plant seeds	Know the	I dentify and	Observe and	Explore the		
and care for growing	basic needs to	name a variety of	describe how seeds and	requirements of		
plants.	help a plant	everyday	bulbs	plants for life		
plants.	grow.	garden plants,	grow into	and		
Understand	8,011	including	mature plants.	growth and		

the key	Make	deciduous and	Compare the	how		
features of	observations	evergreen	different	they vary from		
the life cycle	of	trees.	parts of a	plant to plant.		
of a plant.	plants and	Recognise the	flowering plant	Investigate		
	begin to	structure	and a tree.	the way		
	explain why	of a plant	Find out and	in which		
	some things	including	describe	water is		
	occur.	leaves, petals,	how plants	transported		
		stem,	need water,	within plants.		
	Use senses to	roots and	light and a	Explore the		
	explore and	flowers. How	suitable	part		
	talk about	can they show	temperature to	that flowers		
	plants.	an	grow and	play in		
		understanding	stay healthy.	the life cycle		
	Describe	of the		of		
	what a plant	parts of a		flowering		
	looks like.	plant?		plants,		
		Identify and		including		
	Identify,	classify		pollination,		
	name	different		seed		
	and describe	flowers and		formation and		
	the basic	begin to		seed		
	structure of	explain how		dispersal.		
	common	these differ.		Identify and		
	plants,	Observe		explain		
	including	closely the		the functions		
	garden	growth of		of		
	plants and	flowers and		different parts		
	trees.	vegetables to		of		
		identify the		flowering		

		change over time.		plants.							
Living Things	iving Things										
Begin to	Identify and		Explore and		Recognise that	Describe the	Describe how				
understand	explain		compare		living things can	differences	living				
the need to	the functions		the differences		be grouped in a	in the life cycles	things				
respect and	of		between		variety of ways.	of a	(microorganisms,				
care for the	different		things that are		Begin to put	mammal, an	plants and				
natural	parts of		living,		vertebrate	amphibian,	animals) are				
environment	flowering		dead, and		animals	an insect and	classified into				
and all living	plants.		things that		into groups such	a bird	broad				
things.			have never		as fish,	Describe the	groups according				
	Explore the		been alive.		amphibians,	life process	to				
	part		Identify that		reptiles, birds,	of reproduction	common				
	that flowers		most living		and	in some	observable				
	play in		things live in		mammals; and	plants and	characteristics and				
	the life cycle		habitats to		invertebrates	animals in	that				
	of		which they are		into	their local	this is also based				
	flowering		suited		snails and slugs,	environment.	on				
	plants,		and describe		worms,	Children might	similarities and				
	including		how		spiders, and	try to	differences				
	pollination,		different		insects.	grow new	between				
	seed		habitats provide		Use simple	plants from	them.				
	formation		for the basic		classification	different parts	Give reasons for				
	and		needs of		keys to	of the	classifying plants				
	seed		different kinds		help group,	parent plant.	and				
	dispersal.		of animals		identify and	For	animals based on				

						and Jane Goodall.	
Animals includ	ling Humans	-	•	•	•	-	
Understand	Identify,	Identify and	Notice that	Identify that	Describe the	Describe the	Identify and name
the key	name, draw	name a	animals,	animals,	simple functions	changes as	the
features of	and label the	variety of	including	including	of	humans	main parts of the
the life cycle	basic	common	humans, have	humans, need	the basic parts	develop to old	human
of an animal.	parts of the	animals such	offspring which	the	of the digestive	age.	circulatory
	human	as	grow into	right types	system in	Research the	system.
Make	body.	mammals,	adults.	and	humans,	gestation	Describe the
healthy		reptiles,	Find out about	amount of	including	periods of	functions
choices	Know what	amphibians	and	nutrition,	mouth, tongue,	other animals	of the heart, blood
about food,	each part of	and birds.	describe the	and that they	teeth,	and compare	vessels and blood.
drink, activity	the body	Describe and	basic needs	cannot make	oesophagus,	them with	Recognise the
and	is used for	compare	of animals,	their	stomach and	humans.	impact of
toothbrushin	linking to	the structure	including	own food;	small	Children may	diet, exercise,
g.	senses.	of a variety	humans, for	they get	and large	find out and	drugs and
		of common	survival	nutrition from	intestine	record the	lifestyle on the
	Know what is	animals (fish,	(water, food	what	Identify the	length and	way their
	needed	amphibians,	and air) .	they eat.	different types	mass of a	bodies function.
	to be clean	reptiles,	Describe the	Explain why	of	baby as it	How
	and	birds and	importance	humans and	teeth in humans	grows.	can we keep the
	healthy.	mammals,	for humans of	some other	and their simple		body
		including	exercise,	animals have	functions.		healthy? What
	Name,	pets).	eating the right	skeletons and	Construct and		might
	describe and	Identify and	amounts	muscles and	interpret a		damage the body?
	categorize a	name	of different	what these	variety		Describe the ways
	variety	animals that	types of food,	roles are.	of food chains,		in

	of common animals including fish, reptiles, birds, carnivores and herbivores. Know what some animals eat. Talk about where animals can be found.	are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Understand how to take care of animal habitats and the local environments. Identify, name, draw and label human body parts and say the function of each.	and hygiene.	identifying producers, predators and prey. Compare carnivore, omnivore and herbivore teeth. What is different about them? Can you tell if something is a predator by the type of teeth they have?		which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans. Does this differ depending on the living thing?
Materials						
Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties.	Know about similarities and differences in relation to materials.	Distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made. Identify and name a	Identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic,		Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties,	

Talk about	Recognise	variety of	glass, brick,		including their	
the	and identify	everyday	rock,		hardness,	
differences	some	materials,	paper and		solubility,	
between	everyday	including	cardboard for		transparency,	
materials and	materials.	wood, plastic,	particular uses.		conductivity	
changes they		glass,	Find out how		(electrical	
notice.	They know	metal, water,	the shapes		and thermal),	
	the	and rock	of solid objects		and	
	properties of	Begin to	made		response to	
	some	describe the	from some		magnets. It	
	materials and	simple	materials can		is sufficient for	
	can	physical	be changed by		them to	
	suggest some	properties of a	squashing,		observe that	
	of the	variety of	bending,		some	
	purposes	everyday	twisting and		conductors will	
	they are used	materials.	stretching.		produce	
	for.	Compare and			a brighter bulb	
		group			in a	
		together a			circuit than	
		variety of			others and	
		everyday			that some	
		materials on			materials will	
		the basis of			feel hotter than	
		their simple			others	
		physical			when a heat	
		properties.			source is	
		Can they			placed against them.	
		explain which				
		material			Know that	
		would be best			some	

for a given		materials will	
for a given			
purpose?		dissolve in	
		liquid to form a	
		solution,	
		and describe	
		how to	
		recover a	
		substance	
		from a solution	
		Demonstrate	
		that	
		dissolving,	
		mixing and	
		changes of	
		state are	
		reversible	
		changes	
		Use knowledge	
		of solids,	
		liquids and	
		gases to	
		decide how	
		mixtures	
		might be	
		separated,	
		including	
		through	
		filtering, sieving	
		and	
		evaporating	
		Craporating	

			c:	
			Give reasons,	
			based on	
			evidence from	
			comparative	
			and fair	
			tests, for the	
			particular	
			uses of	
			everyday	
			materials,	
			including	
			metals, wood	
			and plastic	
			Explain that	
			some	
			changes result	
			in the	
			formation of	
			new	
			materials, and	
			that this	
			kind of change	
			is not usually	
			reversible,	
			including	
			changes	
			associated with	
			burning	
			and the action	
			of acid on	

				bicarbonate of soda.	
Seasonal Change					
Loo at sim diff pat cha rela the sea whe diff wea occ Uno the cha sea the won the	char nilarities, all fo ferences, seas tterns and Obse anges in desc ation to weat e four asso asons and with en the s ferent and eather day curs. varies derstand e effect of anging asons on e natural orld around	sons. serve and cribe ather ociated n seasons how length			
son	me				

proc and in th worl then inclu seas chan	uding the sons and nging tes of				
		sc ar fr rc or m Du si fo fo th ha tr w	xplain that oils re made rom ocks and rganic natter. Describe imply how ossils are ormed when hings that ave lived are rapped vithin ock.		

			Examine and do practical experiments on various types of rocks in order to group them on the basis of their appearance and simple		
			properties.		
Light					
Investigate	Observe and		Show that		Recognise that
Shadows	name		light is		light .
	some sources		reflected from		appears to travel
	of		surfaces.		in
	everyday		Explain that I		straight lines. Understand the
	light, including		need light in order		idea that
	electric		to see things		light travels in
	lights, flames		and		straight
	and the				

C	Sun.	that dark is		lines to explain
3	Sull.	the		that
		absence of		
				objects are seen
		light.		because they give
		Explain that		outor
		light		reflect light into
		from the sun		the eye
		can		Explain that we
		be dangerous		see
		and		things because
		there are		light
		ways to		travels from light
		protect eyes.		sources to our
		Show that		eyes or
		there		from light sources
		are patterns in		to
		the		objects and then
		way that the		to our
		size		eyes
		of shadows		Understand that
		change		light
		Show how		travels in straight
		shadows are		lines
		formed when		
		the		shadows have the
				same
				shape as the
				-
		size of shadows change Show how shadows are formed when		eyes Understand that light travels in straigh lines and explain why shadows have th

			by a solid/opaque object.		Use further observation skills to extend their experience of light by looking at a range of phenomena including rainbows, colours on soap bubbles, objects looking bent in water and coloured filters.
Forces					
Explore and talk about different forces they can feel.	Talk about and describe movement. E.g squashing, rolling, pushing etc.		Compare how things move on different surfaces. Understand that some forces need	Explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting	

			la altre aver the s	
	contact		between the	
	between two		Earth and	
	objects but		the falling	
	magnetic		object.	
	forces		Identify the	
	can act at a		effects of air	
	distance.		resistance,	
	Describe		water	
	magnets		resistance and	
	as having tw	C	friction,	
	poles.		that act	
	Observe how	/	between	
	magnets		moving	
	attract or		surfaces.	
	repel each		Pupils should	
	other		explore	
	and attract		falling objects	
	some		and raise	
	materials an	k	questions	
	not		about the	
	others.		effects of air	
	Compare and	k	resistance.	
	group some		Recognise that	
	materials on		some	
	the		mechanisms,	
	basis of		including	
	whether or		levers, pulleys	
	not they are		and	
	attracted to	a	gears, allow a	
	magnet, and		smaller	

			identify some		force to have a	
			magnetic		greater	
			materials.		effect.	
					Pupils might	
					find out how	
					scientists, for	
					example,	
					Galileo Galilei and Isaac	
					Newton helped	
					to	
					develop the	
					theory of	
					gravitation.	
States of Matt	er					
	Understand			Compare and		
	some			group materials		
	important			together,		
	processes			according to		
	and changes			whether		
	in the natural			they are solids,		
	world around			liquids or gases.		
	them,			Observe that		
	including			some materials		
	changing states of			change state when they are		
	matter.			when they are		

			heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C). Identify the part	
			played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature.	
Sound				
Observe an explore a variety of sounds. Explore how sounds can be changed	N		Identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating.	

		F b c f c f t t v v s	to the ear. Find patterns between the bitch of a sound and features of the bbject that broduced it, and the volume of a sound and the	
Electricity		v F S f c t s	strength of the vibrations that produced it. Recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source ncreases.	

Identify	Associate the
common	brightness
appliances that	of a lamp or the
run on	volume
electricity,	of a buzzer with
considering	the
whether they	number and
are mains or	voltage of
battery	cells used in the
powered.	circuit
Construct a	and understand
simple series	what
electrical circuit,	units these would
identifying and	be
naming its basic	measured in.
parts, including	Compare and give
cells, wires,	reasons for
bulbs, switches	variations in
and	how components
buzzers.	function, including
Identify whether	the
or not a lamp	brightness of
will light in a	bulbs, the
simple series	loudness of
circuit, based on	buzzers and
whether or not	the on/off
the lamp is part	position of
of a complete	switches.
loop with a	Fluently use
battery.	recognised

			Recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit. Recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors.		symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.
Earth and Space					
Begin to identify the four seasons and the changes tha take place during these times.	d at			Describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system Describe the movement	

		of the Moon	
		relative to	
		the Earth	
		Describe the	
		Sun, Earth	
		and Moon as	
		approximately	
		spherical	
		bodies	
		Use the idea of	
		the	
		Earth's rotation	
		to	
		explain day and	
		night	
		and the	
		apparent	
		movement of	
		the sun	
		across the sky.	
		Pupils should	
		learn that	
		the Sun is a star	
		at the	
		centre of our	
		solar	
		system and that	
		it has	
		eight planets:	
		Mercury,	

				Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune (Pluto was reclassified as a 'dwarf planet' in 2006)	
Evolution and In	heritance				
					Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. Recognise that living things produce offspring

			of the same kind,
			but normally
			offspring vary
			and are not
			identical to
			their parents. Can
			they
			explain why, using
			their
			knowledge of
			inherited
			and adaptive
			traits?
			Identify how
			animals
			and plants are
			adapted
			to suit their
			environment
			in different ways
			and
			that adaptation
			may lead
			to evolution.
			Can they talk
			about the
			work of Charles
			Darwin,
			Mary Anning and
			Alfred

				Wallace (Pioneers
				in
				evolution)?

Highlighted Text = Sonar Objectives

Italicized Text = ELGs