Ravenscote Junior School – Science Skills Progression.

A high-quality science education provides the foundations for understanding the world through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. Science has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity, and all pupils should be taught essential aspects of the knowledge, methods, processes and uses of science. Through building up a body of key foundational knowledge and concepts, pupils should be encouraged to recognise the power of rational explanation and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena. They should be encouraged to understand how science can be used to explain what is occurring, predict how things will behave, and analyse causes.

Pupils should be taught:

- To develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics
- To develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- The scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future.

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Topics studied	Science Enquiry Skills: Waste and Recycling Forces and Magnets Light and shadows Rocks and soils Animals inc humans (Nutrition and Skeletons) Plants	Science Enquiry Skills: Energy and Water States of Matter Electricity States of Matter Sound Animals inc humans (Digestive system, teeth and food chains) Living things and their habitats	Science Enquiry Skills: Bio Diversity and School Grounds Space Forces Changing State Animals inc humans (Ageing) Living things and their habitats (life cycles and reproduction)	Science Enquiry Skills: Transport and Healthy Lifestyle Living things and their habitats Light Evolution and Inheritance Electricity (Changing Circuits) Animals inc humans (Circulatory system)

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Working Scientifically	• Asking relevant questions and using different types of scientific enquiries to answer them. • Setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests. • Making systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, taking accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers. • Gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions. • Recording findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables. • Reporting on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions. • Using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions. • Identifying differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes. • Using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.		• Planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary. • Taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate. • Recording data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs. • Using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests. • 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. • Identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.	
Living things and their habitats	Identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers.	Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. Explore and use classification keys to help	Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.	Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based

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	Explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant. Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants. Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.	group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.	Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.	on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals. Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.
Animals including humans	Identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat. Identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement.	Describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans. Identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions. Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey.	Describe the changes as humans develop to old age.	Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. Recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function. Describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans.

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Rocks	Compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock. Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter.			
Light	Recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light. Notice that light is reflected from surfaces. Recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes. Recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object. Find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.			Recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines. Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye. Explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes. Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows

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				have the same shape as the objects that cast them.
Forces and magnets	Compare how things move on different surfaces. Notice that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance. Observe how magnets attract or repel each other and attract some materials and not others. Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet, and identify some magnetic materials. Describe magnets as having two poles. Predict whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing.		Explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object. Identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces. Recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.	
States of matter		Compare and group materials together, according to whether they		

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		are solids, liquids or gases. Observe that some materials change state 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		Identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating. Recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear. Find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it. Find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it.		

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		Recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.		
Electricity		Identify common appliances that run on electricity. Construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. Identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery. 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.		Associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit. Compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches. Use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.

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Properties and changes of materials			Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets Know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution Use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating. Give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic. Demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes.	

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			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.	
Earth and Space			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.	
Evolution and inheritance				Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited

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				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. Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.