

Science at Ladysmith Junior School

Intent

At Ladysmith Junior School, we build on the children's scientific learning during Key Stage 1, encouraging the children to question, investigate and discover more about the world around them. Biology, Chemistry and Physics units are introduced with a problem or story that instigates discussion and leads into a process of learning through practical experiments and research – going from problem to solution in much the same way that scientists do in the wider world.

Implementation

Science is taught by the class teacher in planned topic units, and lessons are resourced from STEM learning, BBC Bitesize and Explorify. Our curriculum is enriched by visits from outside organisations, trips to local habitats as well as time outside learning in our diverse school grounds.

Children are given opportunities to 'be scientists' in all lessons. Teachers plan activities to engage children through investigation, observation, communication and cooperation. Wherever possible and appropriate, topics will have a STEM focus with activities that incorporate technology, engineering and maths with outcomes that relate to real life.

From year 3, children learn the scientific skills needed to 'plan', 'do' and 'review' their science. They also learn the five enquiry groups that make up the Working Scientifically element or the 'do' element of science. As the children move through the Junior School, their skills build in each of the 5 enquiry groups so that they can eventually independently choose the most appropriate enquiry method to collect, record and represent their data. Alongside this, the children build their subject knowledge and vocabulary.

Impact

We endeavour that all children will see themselves as scientists and understand the value and relevance of science in the world of work. We aspire that all children will leave us confident and motivated to develop their science skills in the next stage of their education and beyond.

