

Science Overview 2023-2024

Electricity is taught in year 4 and year 6. We feel that due to the significant gap in time between these units, it is important that we ensure knowledge is retained by the children. Therefore, our design and technology unit in Autumn term links to building electrical circuits. This is an opportunity for knowledge to be revisited.

We teach plants in the summer term when there is enough light to grow plants and seedlings. Plants is taught after rocks and light so links can be made by the teacher.

This unit is split into two distinct themes – nutrition and movement. Nutrition will be knowledge that the children will be able to draw on in their year 4 learning about the digestion process.

Year 3	Rocks	Light	Forces and Magnets	Plants	Animals including humans
Year 4	States of Matter	Sound	Electricity	Living things and their habitats	Animals including humans
Year 5	Properties and Changes of Materials	Forces	Earth and Space	Living things and their habitats	Animals including humans
Year 6	Electricity	Living things and their habitats	Animals including humans	Light	Evolution

It is important that the year 5 forces topic is taught before earth and space so that pupils are able to use their understanding of gravity to help them make sense of why the planets orbit the sun, and the moon orbits the Earth.

States of matter is taught before sound in year 4 as the children need to know about how the particles in solids, liquids and gasses behave to understand how sound waves travel through them.

Evolution is a challenging concept for children to understand so we leave this as the last science unit of KS2. This allows the children the time to draw on knowledge for animals including humans and living things and their habitats from Year 6 and also from previously in KS2.

Animals including humans is taught after living things and their habitats because when learning about life cycles of humans it is important that the children have studied the life cycles of plants and animals.

