

Overview of progression in Working Scientifically Skills



Science skills icons					
(?-)	Asking scientific questions		Presenting results		
	Planning an enquiry		Interpreting results		
	Observing closely		Drawing conclusions (KS2 only)		
	Taking measurements		Making predictions (KS2 only)		
	Gathering and recording results		Evaluating an enquiry (KS2 only)		

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	Key Stage I	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Planning	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement
	Asking simple questions and recognising that they can be answered in different ways.	Asking relevant questions and using different types of scientific enquiry to answer them.	Planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions including recognising and controlling variables where necessary
	Guidance	Guidance	Guidance
	(Non-statutory)	(Non-statutory)	(Non-statutory)
ability to as as what sor different, th which altern how they ho Where appro	While exploring the world, the children develop their ability to ask questions (such as what something is, how things are similar and different, the ways things work, which alternative is better, how things change and	The children consider their prior knowledge when asking questions. They independently use a range of question stems. Where appropriate, they answer these questions.	Children independently ask scientific questions. This may be stimulated by a scientific experience or involve asking further questions based on their developed understanding following an enquiry.
	how they happen). Where appropriate, they answer these questions. The children answer questions developed with the	The children answer questions posed by the teacher. Given a range of resources, the children decide for themselves how to gather evidence to answer the	Given a wide range of resources the children decide for themselves how to gather evidence to answer scientific question. They choose a type of enquiry to carry out and justify their choice.
	teacher often through a scenario. The children are involved in planning how to use	question. They recognise when secondary sources can be used	They recognise how secondary sources can be used answer questions that cannot be answered throug
	resources provided to answer the questions using different types of enquiry, helping them to recognise that there are different ways in which questions can	to answer questions that cannot be answered through practical work.	practical work. The children select from a range of practical
	be answered.	They identify the type of enquiry that they have chosen to answer their question.	resources to gather evidence to answer their questions.
			They carry out fair tests, recognising and controlling variables. They decide what observations or measurements to make over time and for how longer
			They look for patterns and relationships using a suitable sample.
	Science Skills	Science Skills	Science Skills
		National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	
		Setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests. Guidance	
		(Non-statutory)	
		The children select from a range of practical resources to gather evidence to answer questions generated by themselves or the teacher.	
		They follow their plan to carry out: observations and tests to classify, comparative and simple fair tests; observations over time; and pattern seeking. Science Skills	

Observing	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement
	Observing closely, using simple equipment	Making systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, taking accurate measurements using standard units.	Taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings where appropriate.
	Guidance (Non-statutory)	Guidance (Non-statutory)	Guidance (Non-statutory)
	Children explore the world around them. They make careful observations to support identification, comparison and noticing change. They use appropriate senses, aided by equipment such as magnifying glasses	The children make systematic and careful observations. They use a range of equipment for measuring length,	The children select measuring equipment to give the most precise results e.g. ruler, tape measure or trundle wheel, force meter with a suitable scale.
	or digital microscopes, to make their observations. They begin to take measurements, initially by comparisons, then using non-standard units.	time, temperature and capacity. They use standard units for their measurements.	During an enquiry, they make decisions e.g. whether they need to: take repeat readings (fair testing); increase the sample size (pattern seeking); adjust the observation period and frequency (observing over time); or check further secondary sources (researching); in order to get accurate data
	Science Skills	Science Skills	(closer to the true value). Science Skills
	National Complete Working Coloration		
	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement		
	Performing simple tests Guidance		
	(Non-statutory) The children use practical resources provided to gather evidence to answer questions generated by themselves or the teacher. They carry out tests to classify; comparative tests; pattern seeking enquiries; and make observations over time.		
	Science Skills		
	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement		
	Identifying and classifying		
	Guidance (Non-statutory)		
	Children use their observations and testing to compare objects, materials and living things. They sort and group these things, identifying their own criteria for sorting.		
	They use simple secondary sources (such as identification sheets) to name living things. They describe the characteristics they used to identify a living thing.		
	Science Skills		
Recording	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement
	Gathering and recording data to help in answering	Gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in	Recording data and results of increasing complexity
	questions.	a variety of ways to help in answering the question. Recording findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables	using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs
	Guidance	Guidance	Guidance
	(Non-statutory) The children record their observations e.g. using	(Non-statutory) The children sometimes decide how to record and	(Non-statutory) The children decide how to record and present
	photographs, videos, drawings, labelled diagrams or in writing. They record their measurements e.g. using prepared tables, pictograms, tally charts and block graphs. They classify using simple prepared tables and sorting rings.	present evidence. They record their observation e.g. using photographs, videos, pictures, labelled diagrams or writing. They record their measurements e.g. using tables, tally charts and bar charts (given templates, if required, to which they can add headings). They record classifications e.g. using tables, Venn diagrams, Carroll diagrams.	evidence. They record observations e.g. using annotated photographs, videos, labelled diagrams, observational drawings, labelled scientific diagrams or writing. They record measurements e.g. using tables, tally charts, bar charts, line graphs and scatter graphs. They record classifications e.g. using tables, Venn diagrams, Carroll diagrams and classification
	S .	Children are supported to present the same data in different ways in order to help with answering the question.	keys. Children present the same data in different ways in order to help with answering the question.
	Science Skills	Science Skills	Science Skills
			National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement
			Using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests Guidance
			(Non-statutory)

			Children use the scientific knowledge gained from enquiry work to make predictions they can investigate using comparative and fair tests.
			Science Skills
Concluding	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement
	Using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions	Reporting on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions	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
	Guidance (Non-statutory)	Guidance (Non-statutory)	Guidance (Non-statutory)
	Children use their experiences of the world around them to suggest appropriate answers to questions. They are supported to relate these to their evidence e.g. observations they have made, measurements they have taken or information they have gained from secondary sources.	They communicate their findings to an audience both orally and in writing, using appropriate scientific vocabulary.	In their conclusions, children: identify causal relationships and patterns in the natural world from their evidence; identify results that do not fit the overall pattern; and explain their findings using their subject knowledge.
	The children recognise 'biggest and smallest', 'best and worst' etc. from their data.		They evaluate, for example, the choice of method used, the control of variables, the precision and accuracy of measurements and the credibility of secondary sources used.
			They identify any limitations that reduce the trust they have in their data. They communicate their findings to an audience using
	Science Skills	Science Skills	relevant scientific language and illustrations Science Skills
		National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	
		Identifying differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes Guidance	
		(Non-statutory) Children interpret their data to generate simple comparative statements based on their evidence. They begin to identify naturally occurring patterns and causal relationships	
		Science Skills	
		National Curriculum Working Scientifically	
		Statement Using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings Guidance	
		(Non-statutory) Children answer their own and others' questions based on observations they have made, measurements they have taken or information they have gained from secondary sources. The answers are consistent with the evidence	
		Science Skills	
Evaluating		National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement	National Curriculum Working Scientifically statement
		Using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions	Identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments
		Guidance (Non-statutory)	Guidance (Non-statutory)
		They draw conclusions based on their evidence and current subject knowledge. They identify ways in which they adapted their method as they progressed or how they would do it	Children answer their own and others' questions based on observations they have made, measurements they have taken or information they have gained from secondary sources. When doing this, they discuss whether other evidence e.g. from other groups,
		differently if they repeated the enquiry. Children use their evidence to suggest values for different items tested using the same method e.g.	secondary sources and their scientific understanding, supports or refutes their answer. They talk about how their scientific ideas change due
		the distance travelled by a car on an additional surface.	to new evidence that they have gathered. They talk about how new discoveries change scientific
		Following a scientific experience, the children ask further questions which can be answered by extending the same enquiry	understanding.
		Science Skills	Science Skills