

Science - Year 2 Key Objectives (Statutory)

Living things and their habitats

- 1 Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive
- 2 Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants and how they depend on each other
- 3 Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including micro-habitats
- 4 Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food

Plants

- 5 Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants
- 6 Find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy

Animals, including humans

- 7 Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults
- 8 Find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air)
- 9 Describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene

Uses of everyday materials

- 10 Identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses
- 11 Find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching

Science - Year 2 Key Objectives (Non-Statutory)

Living things and their habitats

1 Be introduced to the idea that all living things have certain characteristics that are essential for keeping them alive and healthy. Raise and answer questions that help to become familiar with the life processes that are common to all living things. Be introduced to the terms 'habitat' (a natural environment or home of a variety of plants and animals) and 'micro-habitat' (a very small habitat, for example for woodlice under stones, logs or leaf litter). Raise and answer questions about the local environment that help to identify and study a variety of plants and animals within their habitat and observe how living things depend on each other, for example, plants serving as a source of food and shelter for animals. Compare animals in familiar habitats with animals found in less familiar habitats, for example, on the seashore, in woodland, in the ocean, in the rainforest

2 Work scientifically by: sorting and classifying things according to whether they are living, dead or were never alive, and recording findings using charts. Describe decisions about where to place things, exploring questions for example: 'Is a flame alive? Is a deciduous tree dead in winter?' and talk about ways of answering the questions. Construct a simple food chain that includes humans (e.g. grass, cow, human). Describe the conditions in different habitats and micro-habitats (under log, on stony path, under bushes) and find out how the conditions affect the number and type(s) of plants and animals that live there

Plants

3 Use the local environment throughout the year to observe how different plants grow. Be introduced to the requirements of plants for germination, growth and survival, as well as to the processes of reproduction and growth in plants.

Note: Seeds and bulbs need water to grow but most do not need light; seeds and bulbs have a store of food inside them

4 Work scientifically by: observing and recording, with some accuracy, the growth of a variety of plants as they change over time from a seed or bulb, or observing similar plants at different stages of growth; setting up a comparative test to show that plants need light and water to stay healthy

Animals, including humans

5 Be introduced to the basic needs of animals for survival, as well as the importance of exercise and nutrition for humans. Be introduced to the processes of reproduction and growth in animals. The focus at this stage should be on questions that help to recognise growth. There is no expectation to understand how reproduction occurs.

The following examples might be used: egg, chick, chicken; egg, caterpillar, pupa, butterfly; spawn, tadpole, frog; lamb, sheep. Growing into adults can include reference to baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult

6 Work scientifically by: observing, through video or first-hand observation and measurement, how different animals, including humans, grow; asking questions about what things animals need for survival and what humans need to stay healthy and suggesting ways to find answers to questions

Uses of everyday materials

7 Identify and discuss the uses of different everyday materials to become familiar with how some materials are used for more than one thing (metal can be used for coins, cans, cars and table legs; wood can be used for matches, floors, and telegraph poles) or different materials are used for the same thing (spoons can be made from plastic, wood, metal, but not normally from glass). Think about the properties of materials that make them suitable or unsuitable for particular purposes and encourage thinking about unusual and creative uses for everyday materials. Find out about people who have developed useful new materials, for example John Dunlop, Charles Macintosh or John McAdam

8 Work scientifically by: comparing the uses of everyday materials in and around the school with materials found in other places (at home, the journey to school, on visits, and in stories, rhymes and songs); observing closely, identifying and classifying the uses of different materials, and recording observations