

Why is it important to teach Science?

Through our teaching of Science at North Road Primary School, we aim to develop and support pupils natural curiosity around scientific questioning. All pupils should develop a good scientific understanding of the world around them whilst acquiring specific skills, vocabulary and knowledge. We teach pupils to think scientifically, gain an understanding of scientific processes and develop an understanding of the uses and implications of scientific processes and developments, today and in the future. Our teaching of Science builds on prior learning and prepares the pupils for further learning at Key Stage 3.

Events and learning opportunities

- Annual School Science Week to coincide with National Science Week
- Local secondary school led whole school Science Assemblies
- Class visits to support learning in Science. For example Westonbirt Arboretum, We the Curious, Bristol Planetarium and Slimbridge Wetlands
- Use of local outdoor locations, for example River Frome and local woodlands
- Domino Alliance Schools STEM enrichment workshops
- Visits to local Secondary School for Key Stage 2 Science Workshops
- Opportunities to participate in National STEM projects and competitions
- Whole School Science Shows and Class Workshops, for example Professor Bubbleworks

What does science look like at North Road?

Our Science Curriculum in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 is delivered through a series of lessons which are taught weekly and plan for progression and depth.

Our pupils study: Living Things, Materials, States of Matter, Light, Sound, Electricity, Forces and our Earth and Space, as set out in the National Curriculum.

All pupils are encouraged to develop and use a range of skills including questioning, hypothesising, planning, predicting, investigating and observing. Scientific enquiry skills are embedded into each Science topic studied and these are revisited and developed through-out a pupil's time at North Road Primary School. This provides opportunities for pupils to build on prior knowledge and embed knowledge into the long-term memory.

Scientific vocabulary is taught and extended across learning in Science. We use 'low threat' quizzes at the end of each topic and these build up through-out the school year. This supports our pupils to block and recall their learning and increase working memory.

In Early Years, science activities link with continuous provision through 'Discover' learning time and regular 'Forest School' inspired activities using our outdoor environment.

Science teaching in all classes makes good use of our outdoor spaces to support and enhance learning opportunities in Science.

What our children say....

"I use my prior knowledge to help me predict the results of experiments."

"Science lessons are fun. We learn new words and facts that we don't know yet."

"I like Science because it is really practical and I learn best when I am trying things out."