



SCIENCE at Overchurch Infant School



Intent

At Overchurch Infant School, our Science curriculum gives children a strong understanding of the world around them and develops their natural curiosity to find out how and why things happen in the way they do.

As Scientists, children experience science through different contexts that are engaging, contextual and appropriate for their age group. They acquire specific skills and knowledge to help them to think scientifically using enquiry and investigation and encouraging creative thought.

Children learn to ask scientific questions and discuss issues which affect their lives, their community and the world as a whole, now and in the future. Through a variety of first hand experiences, children have the opportunity to develop their understanding of the world through exploration and investigation.

This “hands on, minds on” approach continues throughout school to aid conceptual understanding. In addition, the children are immersed in scientific vocabulary, which aids children’s knowledge and equips them with the ability to be able to explain scientific concepts for themselves.

“Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known” Carl Sagan



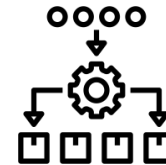
Sequencing Content

- *Knowledge is mapped out sequentially to ensure progression across the key stages
- *Teachers make a conscious effort to link prior learning and to build on existing understanding
- *National Curriculum statements for ‘working scientifically’ are progressive for each unit of work



Big Ideas

- *Plants
- *Animals (including humans)
- *Everyday Materials
- *Seasonal Change
- *Living Things & their Habitats



Deepening Concepts

- *Scientific concepts are deepened, such as:
 - asking simple questions
 - observing closely, using simple equipment
 - performing simple tests
 - identifying and classifying
 - using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions
 - gathering and recording data



Retrieval Practice

- *Children take part in regular low stakes quizzes and retrieval activities to strengthen memory
- *Knowledge organisers are used to allow children to independently access and reinforce key concepts
- *Remembering key learning and knowledge is celebrated and part of our school culture