Science UKS2



For specific progression of scientific skills for each year group see working scientifically skills ladders.

Outdoor learning is a focus throughout each unit.

TOPIC	SCIENCE	KNOWLEDGE	KEY SKILLS	KEY VOCABULARY
CYCLE A HOLES AUTUMN	LIVING THINGS AND THEIR HABITAT - EVOLUTION AND INHERITANCE - YG ENVIRONMENT	Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents. Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.	Observing and raising questions about local animals and how they are adapted to the environment. Comparing how some living things adapt to survive in extreme conditions, e.g. cactuses, penguins and camels. Analysing the advantages and disadvantages of specific adaptations, such as being on two feet rather than four, having a long or a short beak, having gills or lungs, tendrils on climbing plants, brightly coloured and scented flowers. Focus skills Evaluate — fossil habitats TPENTIFYING AND CLASSIFYING—COMPARE THE SKELETONS OF APES, HUMAN AND NEANDERTHALS—HOW ARE THEY SIMILAR AND HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT? PATTERN SEEKING—IS THERE A PATTERN BETWEEN THE SIZE AND SHAPE OF A BIRD'S BEAK AND THE FOOD IT WILL EAT?	Evolution, change over time, species, population, features, trait, inherited, reproduce, offspring, variation, mutation, survive/survival/survival of the fittest, adaptation Consumer, producer, predator, prey, food chain, consumer, producer, key, suited
CYCLE A HOLES AUTUMN	LIGHT - YG LIGHT	Recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines. Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye. Explain that we see things because the light that travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes (and represent this in simple diagrammatic form). Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that east them.	 Deciding [observe/explore] where to place rearview mirrors on cars. Designing and making [Create / Invent / Design] a periscope and using the idea that light appears to travel in straight lines to explain how it works. Investigating the relationship [looking for patterns] between light sources, objects and shadows by using shadow pappets. Extend their experience [explore and observe] of light by looking at a range of phenomena including rainbows, colours on soap bubbles, objects looking bent in water and coloured filters (they do not need to explain why these phenomena occur). Focus skills Record — investigating shadows 	see, seen, light source, eyes, travel shadow, opaque, block reflect, reflection, mirror, direction light travelling, light beam, straight lines, cast, periscope, rear-view mirror, object, shadow puppet, rainbow, colours, bend, split

CYCLE A	EARTH AND SPACE - YS	Describe the movement of the Earth, and	Ask Q's and plan enquiry – light questions LINE GRAPH Piagrams and labels OBSERVING OVER TIME – HOW DOES MY SHADOW CHANGE OVER THE DAY? • Comparing the time of day at different places on	Sphere/spherical, revolve, orbit, spin, rotate,
A COBBS BROW GUIDE TO THE GALAXY SPRING	LIGHT	 bescribe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun and each other in the solar system. Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth. Describe Sun/Earth/Moon as approximately spherical bodies. Use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night. The Earth spins once around its own axis in 24 hours, giving day and night. The Earth orbits the Sun in one year. We can see the Moon because the Sun's light reflects off it. The Moon orbits the Earth in approximately 28 days and changes to the appearance of the moon are evidence of this. Use the Earth's movement in space to explain the appearent movement of the sun across the sky. The Sun appears to move across the sky from East to West and this causes shadows to change during the day. Changes to shadow length over a day or changes to sunrise and sunset times over a year are evidence supporting the movement of the Earth. 	Comparing the time of day at different places on the Earth through internet links and direct communication. Creating simple models of the solar system. Constructing simple shadow clocks and sundials, calibrated to show midday and the start and end of the school day. Finding out why some people think that structures such as Stonehenge might have been used as astronomical clocks. Focus skills Interpret and report — solar system research (English) Tables RESEARCH — How HAVE OUR IDEAS ABOUT THE SOLAR SYSTEM CHANGED OVER TIME?	axis, sunrise, sunset, north, south, east, west, rotate around, rotate on its axis Solar system, Sun, Moon, star, Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, planet Sundial, shadow clock Model, compare, evidence
CYCLE A ANCIENT GREECE SUMMER	FORCES - Y5 FORCES	 Explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object. Identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction that act between moving surfaces (causing things to slow down) Recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect. There are different types of forces (push, pull, friction, air resistance, water resistance, magnetic forces, gravity) which have different effects on objects Gravity can act without direct contact between the Earth and an object. Friction, air resistance and water resistance can be useful or unwanted. 	 Exploring falling paper cones or cup-cake cases. Designing and making [exploring] a variety of parachutes. Carrying out fair tests to determine which designs are the most effective. Exploring resistance in water by making and testing boats of different shapes. Design and make [create/invent/design] artefacts that use simple levers, pulleys, gears and/or springs and explore their effects. Focus skills Observe and measure — forces spinners Scatter graphs FAIR TEST — HOW DOES THE SURFACE AREA OF A PARACHUTE AFFECT THE TIME IT TAKES TO FALL TO THE GROUND? 	Friction, air resistance, water resistance, forcemeter, Newtons, surface area, gravity, movement, between surfaces Friction, air resistance, water resistance, forcemeter, Newtons, surface area, gravity, movement, between surfaces

		 The effects of friction, air resistance and water resistance can be reduced or increased for a preferred effect. More than one force can act on an object simultaneously (either reinforcing or opposing each other). 		
CYCLE A ANCIENT GREECE SUMMER	ANIMALS - EXERCISE, HEALTH AND CIRCULATORY SYSTEM - YG ANIMALS INCLUDING HUMANS	 Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. Recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function (in the long term and short term). Describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans. The heart is a major organ and is made of muscle. The heart pumps blood around the body through vessels and this can be felt as a pulse. The heart pumps blood through the lungs in order to obtain a supply of oxygen. Blood carries oxygen/essential materials to different parts of the body. During exercise muscles need more oxygen so the heart beats faster and our breathing and pulse rates increase. Animals are alive; they move, feed, grow, use their senses, reproduce, breathe/respire and excrete. An adequate, varied and balanced diet is needed to help us grow and repair our bodies (proteins), provide us with energy (fats and carbohydrates) and maintain good health (vitamins and minerals). Tobacco, alcohol and other 'drugs' can be harmful. All medicines are drugs, not all drugs are medicines. 	• Exploring the work of scientists and • Scientific research about the relationship between diet, exercise, drugs, lifestyle and health. *Additional suggestion beyond NC2014 to support pupils working scientifically and to provide an opportunity to use ICT to collect/interpret data • Observing/Measuring changes to breathing, heart beat and or pulse rates after exercise. Focus Skills Set up enquiry — heart rate SCATTER GRAPHS Fair Test Q: How does the length of time we exercise for affect our heart rate??	Heart, heartbeat, pulse, pulse rate, muscle, blood vessel, blood, lung, oxygen, carbon dioxide, circulate, circulatory system, organ Diet, exercise, drugs, lifestyle, body function, harmful, healthy, damaged, nutrients, water, transported, substances Food types: fats, sugars, starches, protein, carbohydrate, protein, vitamins and minerals. Tobacco, drugs, alcohol. Balanced diet, side effect, harmful effect.
CYCLE B CRIME AND PUNISHMENT AUTUMN	ELECTRICITY - Y6 ELECTRICITY	Associate the brightness of a lamp or the Yolume of a buzzer with the number and Yoltage of cells used in the circuit. Compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches.	Systematically identifying [testing] the effect of changing one [thing] component at a time in a circuit. Designing and making [Create / Invent / Design] a set of traffic lights, a burglar alarm or some other useful circuit. Focus skills	cell (battery), wire, bulb, bulb holder, buzzer, motor, switch (open/closed), complete circuit, electrical conductor, electrical insulator, component, circuit symbol, circuit diagram, standard symbols, voltage connection, component, break, fault devices, appliances, mains electricity, safety

		 Use recognised symbols (at least: cells, wires, switches, bulbs, buzzers and motors) when representing a simple circuit in a diagram. Use/interpret circuit diagrams to construct a Variety of more complex circuits predicting whether they will 'work'. 	Ask Q's and plan enquiry — bulb brightness Evaluate FAIR TEST — HOW DOES THE VOLTAGE OF A BATTERY IN A CIRCUIT AFFECT THE BRIGHTNESS OF A LAMP? RESEARCH — HOW HAS OUR UNDERSTANDING OF ELECTRICITY CHANGED OVER TIME? Diagrams and labels	common materials e.g. metal, wood, plastic Expressions for making suggestions using 'if', 'might', 'could' connection, mains, wire, break Comparative expressions e.g. brighter, less bright (bulbs); faster, slower (motors) Note words which have a different meaning in other contexts e.g. circuit, break, bulb, fault).
CYCLE B POLE TO POLE SPRING	MATERIAL PROPERTIES - Y5 MATERIALS	Material changes – irreversible Explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not usually reversible, including changes associated with burning, and the action of acid on bicarbonate of soda (producing a gas / fizzing). Material changes – reversible Know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution. Use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating. Demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes. Changes can occur when different materials are mixed. Some material changes can be reversed and some cannot. Recognise that dissolving is a reversible change and recognise everyday situations where dissolving occurs. Distinguish between melting and dissolving. Mixtures of solids (of different particle size) can be separated by sieving. Mixtures of solids and liquids can be separated by filtering if the solid is insoluble (undissolved). Evaporation helps us separate soluble materials from water. Changes to materials can happen at different rates (factors affecting dissolving, factors affecting evaporation – amount of liquid, temperature, wind speed, etc). Freezing, melting and boiling changes can be reversed (revision from YRA).	Material changes – irreversible Observing and comparing the changes that take place, for example, when burning different materials or baking bread or cakes. Researching and discussing how chemical changes have an impact on our lives, for example cooking. Discuss [research] the creative use of new materials such as polymers, super-sticky and super-thin materials. Explain how they know when a change is reversible or irreversible Material changes – reversible Observing and comparing the changes that take place. Recognise and describe everyday situations where dissolving occurs. Explain how they know when a change is reversible Material properties Carry out tests to answer questions such as 'which materials would be the most effective for making a warm jacket, for wrapping ice cream to stop it melting, or for making blackout curtains?' Compare materials in order to make a switch in a circuit (although this might be done in an electricity unit in another yr, grp) Focus skills Recording – sugar cubes Set up enquiry – materials insulation layers Tables Bar charts	Material changes Dissolved, undissolved, solution, mixture, filter, sieve, evaporate, condense, melting, separate, reversible, irreversible, reaction, product, material, powder, substance, acid, change, burning, rusting Words and phrases related to data handling e.g. bar line graph, line graph, average, accurate Material Properties Words describing the characteristics of materials e.g. strong, hard, flexible, absorbent, transparent, thermal conductor, thermal insulator Words and phrases related to warmth and cold e.g. temperature, thermometer, degrees Celsius Words related to the investigation of these properties e.g. investigate, test, describe, explain, comparison, fair, conclude, evidence Comparison/compare, description/describe Words which have different meanings in other contexts e.g. test, fair, conclude Words associated with rocks: slate, marble, chalk, granite, sand, sandstone, clay, rock, stone, pebble, texture, absorbent, particles, permeable, non-permeable, acid rain

		Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility. transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets. Give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic (advantages and disadvantages). Compare a variety of materials and measure their effectiveness (e.g. hardness, strength, flexibility, solubility, transparency, thermal conductivity, electrical conductivity). Temperature and Thermal Insulation Heat always moves from hot to cold. Some materials (insulators) are better at slowing down the movement of heat than others. Objects/liquids will warm up or cool down until they reach the temperature of their surroundings.	OBSERVING OVER TIME - HOW DOES A CONTAINER OF SALT WATER CHANGE OVER TIME? HOW DOES A SUGAR CUBE CHANGE AS IT IS PUT INTO A GLASS OF WATER? PATTERN SEEKING - DO ALL STRETCHY MATERIALS STRETCH IN THE SAME WAY?	
CYCLE B CENTRAL AMERICA - MEXICO SUMMER	ANIMALS - HUMAN LIFE CYCLES ANIMALS INCLUDING HUMANS	Describe the changes as humans develop to old age. Animals are alive; they move, feed, grow, use their senses, reproduce, breathe/respire and excrete.	Researching the gestation periods other animals and comparing them with humans. By finding out and recording the length and mass of a baby as it grows. Focus skills Observe and measure — human growth study Scatter graphs IDENTIFYING AND CLASSIFYING — CAN YOU IDENTIFY ALL THE STAGES IN THE HUMAN LIFE CYCLE?	Changes, develop/development, grow/growth, baby, toddler, young, teenager, adult, old age, timeline, stages, puberty, gestation periods, compare
CYCLE B CENTRAL AMERICA - MEXICO SUMMER	LIVING THINGS AND THEIR HABITATS ENVIRONMENT	Observing and animal life cycles Pescribe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird. Pescribe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. Name, locate and describe the functions of the main parts of reproductive system of plants (stigma, stamen, petal, sepal, pollen, ovary) Classification Pescribe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals.	Observing and animal life cycles Observing and comparing the life cycles of plants and animals in their local environment with other plants and animals around the world (in the rainforest, in the oceans, in desert areas and in prehistoric times). Asking pertinent questions. Suggesting reasons for similarities & differences [grouping and classifying]. They might try to [explore] grow new plants from different parts of the parent plant, for e.g., seeds, stem & root cuttings, tubers, bulbs. Observe changes in an animal over a period of time (for example, by hatching & rearing chicks).	Observing and animal life cycles Mammals, amphibians, reptiles and plants Live young/eggs, gestation/incubation period, grow, metamorphosis, internal/external sexual reproduction, parental care/no parental care Flowering and non-flowering plants, classifying, classification Reproduction/reproduce, fertilisation/fertilise, germination/germinate, pollination/pollinate,

 Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics. Living things can be grouped into microorganisms, plants and animals. Vertebrates can be grouped as fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Invertebrates can be grouped as snails and slugs, worms, spiders and insects. Plants can be grouped as flowering plants (incl. trees and grasses) and non-flowering plants (such as ferns and mosses). 	Comparing how different animals reproduce and grow. Classification Using classification systems and keys. Identifying [grouping & classifying] some animals and plants in the immediate environment. Researching unfamiliar animals & plants from a broad range of other habitats & decide where they belong in the classification system [grouping & classifying]. Focus skills Interpret and report—invertebrate research Record—outdoor keys CLASSIFICATION KEYS	Stamen, style, stigma, sepal, petal, ovary, pollen, Adapted, Flowering and non-flowering plants Similarities and differences Observe over time Classification Sort, group, identify, classify, environment, suited, classification system, key, habitat
	COMPARATIVE TEST - WHICH IS THE MOST COMMON INVERTEBRATE ON OUR SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD?	