Y4 Science Key Learning

'Working together to achieve success'

Objectives in bold are taken from the National Curriculum



Please Note: There should be plenty of opportunities throughout the year for children to use the school/local environment to observe and identify how a habitat changes. This could include a focus on the relationships between the plants and animals within a habitat. This could be done through an ongoing/monthly nature journal to observe, record and review over a period of time.

	Animals – Teeth, Eating and Digestion
	 Describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans. Identify the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions. Construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey. Describe how teeth and gums have to be cared for in order to keep them healthy.
ar. Pupils	Notes and Guidance (non-statutory): Pupils should be introduced to the main body parts associated with the digestive system, for example, mouth, tongue, teeth, oesophagus, stomach and small and large intestine and explore questions that help them understand their special functions.
ple, the positive	 Pupils might work scientifically by: Comparing the teeth of carnivores and herbivores. Suggesting reasons for differences. Finding out what damages teeth and how to look after them. Drawing and discussing their ideas about the digestive system. Comparing them with models or images.
tify local plants	 Use of the outdoor grounds: Discussion of the type of teeth needed to eat the foliage in the local area. Play matching games of animal, tooth and food source. E.G. nuts → incisor → squirrel
occifu	Vocabulary Eat, chew, breakdown, saliva, swallow, feed, feeding, healthy, unhealthy, function,
prey, producer,	producer, predator, prey, dentist, toothpaste, dental care, hygienist Teeth, gums, incisor, molar, canine. Digestive system, mouth, tongue, oesophagus, stomach, small intestine, large intestine, faeces. Words which have different meanings in other contexts e.g. diet, root, activity, decay, evidence, conclusion. Other words which might arise through discussion / research but are not essential: peristalsis, digestive juices, churn, energy, nutrients, absorbed, blood, liver, bladder, anus.
formally at this	ight use the terms current and voltage, but these should not be introduced or defined stage. Pupils should be taught about precautions for working safely with electricity.
 Observing part conductors of 	<pre>vork scientifically by: tterns, for example, that bulbs get brighter if more cells are added, that metals tend to be electricity, and that some materials can and some cannot be used to connect across a it.</pre>
Vocabulary cell (battery), w	ire, bulb, bulb holder, buzzer, motor, switch (open/closed), circuit, electrical conductor,
electrical insula common materi 'could' ,connect	tor, connection, component, break, devices, appliances, mains electricity, safety ials e.g. metal, wood, plastic. Expressions for making suggestions using 'if', 'might', tion, mains, wire, break. Comparative expressions e.g. brighter, less bright (bulbs); motors). Note words which have a different meaning in other contexts e.g. circuit, break,
r r r	formally at this Pupils might w • Observing par conductors of gap in a circu Vocabulary cell (battery), w electrical insula common mater 'could',connect faster, slower (n

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Material Properties and Changes– States of Matter	Sound
Compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases. Observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C). Identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature. Solids, liquids and gases can be identified by their observable properties. Solids have a fixed size and shape (the size and shape can be changed but it remains the same after the action). Liquids can pour and take the shape of the container in which they are put. Solids in the form of powders can pour as if they were liquids but make a pile not a pool. Gases fill the container in which they are put. Gases escape from an unsealed container. Gases can be made smaller by squeezing/pressure.	 Vibrations Identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating. Recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear. Find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it. Recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases. Sounds can be made in a variety of ways (pluck, bang, shake, blow) using a variety of things (instruments, everyday materials, body). Sounds travel away from their source in all directions. Vibrations may not always be visible to the naked eye. Pitch Find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it. Sounds can be high or low pitched. The pitch of a sound can be altered. Pitch can be altered either by changing the material, tension, thickness or length of vibrating objects or changing the length of a vibrating air column.
 Liquids and gases can flow. Notes and Guidance (non-statutory): Pupils should explore a variety of everyday materials and develop simple descriptions of the states of matter (solids hold their shape; liquids form a pool not a pile; gases escape from an unsealed container). Pupils should observe water as a solid, a liquid and a gas and should note the changes to water when it is heated or cooled. Note: Teachers should avoid using materials where heating is associated with chemical change, e.g. through baking or burning. Pupils might work scientifically by: Grouping and classifying a variety of different materials. Exploring the effect of temperature on substances such as chocolate, butter, cream (for example, to make food such as chocolate crispy cakes and ice-cream for a party). Researching the temperature at which materials change state, for example, when iron melts or when oxygen condenses into a liquid. Observing and recording evaporation over a period of time, such as a puddle in the playground or washing on a line. Investigating the effect of temperature on washing drying or snowmen melting. Additional suggestion from Lancashire for working scientifically opportunities which enhance learning and support using ICT. This unit provides an ideal opportunity for using data logging equipment to detect/measure and compare temperatures. Vocabulary Solid, liquid, gas, property, change, temperature, change state, heated, cooled, temperature, degrees Celsius, water cycle condensation/condense, evaporation/evaporate, melting/melt, freezing/freeze, solidification/solidity, boiling temperature particle, air, carbon dioxide, oxygen, helium, natural gas, viscosity, 	 Muffling/blocking sounds Recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear. Sounds are heard when they enter our ears (although the structure of the ear is not important key learning at this age phase). Sounds can travel through solids, liquids and air/gas by making the materials vibrate. Sound travel can be reduced by changing the material that the vibrations travel through. Sound travel can be blocked. Notes and Guidance (non-statutory): Pupils should explore and identify the way sound is made through vibration in a range of different musical instruments from around the world; and find outhow the pitch and volume of sounds can be changed in a variety of ways. Pupils might work scientifically by: Finding patterns in the sounds that are made by different objects such as saucepan lids of different sizes or elast bands of different thicknesses. They might make ear muffs from a variety of different materials to investigate which provides the best insulation against sound. They could make and play their own instruments by using what they have found out about pitch and volume. Additional suggestion from Lancashire for working scientifically opportunities which enhance learning and support using ICT across the curriculum This unit provides an ideal opportunity for using data logging equipment to detect/measure and compare sounds Vocabulary Pitch, loudness, vibrate, vibration, muffle, tuning, quiet, soft, noise, sound, loudness, loud, volume, tension, tight, a air column, muffle