

How Can You Help?

The world around us is an exciting place!
There are lots of opportunities to explore, investigate and experiment!

Here are some ways in which you can support your child when at home and 'out and about':

- Children to have regular time outside playing and exploring their own surroundings.
- Talk about simple predictions of everyday scenarios: What do you think would happen if we leave the freezer door open? Why do you think the water has frozen on the top of the pond?
- Look and ask questions about objects around them using their five senses safely. How they look, touch, smell, hear and taste.
- Talk about the four different seasons Summer, Spring, Autumn and Winter and the weather in daily conversations.
- Recognise changes in plants and trees related to the time of year. For example, why are the leaves changing colour?



Feel free to contact the following people for any additional information:

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Stocksbridge

NI

School

Science

Information for Parents and Carers

What is Science?

The purpose of this leaflet is to help you understand how science is taught at Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School (SNI).

Science looks at research, acquiring knowledge, predicting, investigating and evaluation. When developing these skills, children will have a better understanding of the world around them.

Research- Children have access to a wide range of media to research from. PowerPoints delivered by our teachers, computers and iPad to access the internet and a range of non-fiction books in our class libraries and school library. Children work either individually, in small groups or as a class, joining in discussions and making their relevant points. Children learn to use the research provided to make simple predictions before investigating.

Predicting- Children learn to predict what could happen in different experiments. They discuss their different ideas and record them as a class or individually. This process helps them to process ideas and use their long-term memory to reflect on previous knowledge.

Investigate- Children enjoy the practical element of science. Having a hands-on approach helps our kinaesthetic learning technique draw fantastic vocabulary to answer our predictions. Testing objects strength, absorbency, transparency, malleability are a few of the experiments we perform. We sort objects and group pictures, grow and observe plants and record our findings.

Evaluate - Children start to understand the importance of the experiment, by recording their findings and comparing them to the predictions they made previously.

How is Science taught at SNI?

Science is taught in curriculum time and linked to our school topic for the half term.

Children access science in the classroom and during Welly Wednesday in reception and in the class room and in Forest Schools in Year 1 and 2. Each child covers these areas of the science curriculum whilst in our school setting.

Plants

Reception- children explore the surroundings around them, the meadow, the field and the woods next to our school. They grow plants, observe them, use appropriate vocabulary, drawings and photographs as records to understand how they grow and name parts of the plant.

Year 1 and 2 -children access forest schools one half term each year. They look and identify common and wild plants from seeds to mature plants including deciduous and evergreen trees. They can identify the common structure of a plant and its needs for survival.

Animals including humans

Reception - use their surroundings to explore a range of animals. They look at how they survive and their habitats. Comparing animals in hot and cold countries and how they have adapted to their habitats.

Year 1- research and sort animals from hot and cold countries into categories of mammals, fish, birds, insects, amphibians and reptiles. They research and investigate by sorting into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. They can name a variety of animals and label simple body parts.

Year 2 extend their understanding of animals and look at how offspring grow into adults. They research and investigate animals' survival needs.

How is Science taught at SNI?

Everyday materials

Children look at and sort a range of materials across the age range. All children can distinguish between an object and a material from which it is made.

Reception- sort according to the aesthetics of the material for example colour, shiny or dull.

Year 1 and Year 2- sort according to the type of material and its properties.

They will look at the suitability of a material through simple investigations, predicting and evaluating their findings. They will develop their knowledge further by looking at how a material can change its shape.

Seasonal changes

Reception- look at weather daily and use in in their language when talking to peers and adults.

Year 1- record weather data across a week and research and discuss the length of a day.

Living things and their habitats.

Year 2- use their knowledge, observe and compare things that are living, dead or things that have never been alive. Looking at micro habitats e.g. the pond or under a log. researching how different habitats provide differing needs for survival.

Children research and sort food chains and sources of food.