

Key Stage 1



Working Scientifically

'Working scientifically' is described separately in the programme of study, but must **always** be taught through and clearly related to the teaching of substantive science content in the programme of study.

Pupils should be helped to develop their understanding of scientific ideas by using different types of scientific enquiry to answer their own questions, including:

- observing changes over a period of time
- noticing patterns
- grouping and classifying things
- carrying out simple comparative tests
- finding things out using secondary sources of information

Pupils should read and spell scientific vocabulary at a level consistent with their increasing word reading and spelling knowledge at key stage 1

Pupils should be taught to

During years 1 and 2, pupils should be taught to use the following practical scientific methods, processes and skills through the teaching of the programme of study content:

asking simple questions and recognising that they can be answered in different ways

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 to help in answering questions.

National Curriculum Notes

Pupils in years 1 and 2 should explore the world around them and raise their own questions. They should experience different types of scientific enquiries, including practical activities, and begin to recognise ways in which they might answer scientific questions. They should use simple features to compare objects, materials and living things and, with help, decide how to sort and group them, observe changes over time, and, with guidance, they should begin to notice patterns and relationships. They should ask people questions and use simple secondary sources to find answers. They should use simple measurements and equipment (for example, hand lenses, egg timers) to gather data, carry out simple tests, record simple data, and talk about what they have found out and how they found it out. With help, they should record and communicate their findings in a range of ways and begin to use simple scientific language.

These opportunities for working scientifically should be provided across years 1 and 2 so that **the expectations in the programme of study can be met by the end of year 2**. Pupils are not expected to cover each aspect for every area of study.