

SCIENCE IN THE EYFS



“Art has the role in education of helping children become like themselves instead of more like everyone else.”
 ~ Sydney Gurewitz Clemens



Understanding the world

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. The frequency and range of children’s personal experiences increases their knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers, nurses and firefighters. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains. Enriching and widening children’s vocabulary will support later reading comprehension.

	Children will be learning to...	What the learning will look like...
Foundation Stage 2 (Reception) Age - 4 & 5	<p>Explore the natural world around them.</p> <p>Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.</p> <p>Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.</p>	<p>Children will have frequent opportunities for outdoor play and exploration.</p> <p>Adults encourage interactions with the outdoors to foster curiosity and give children freedom to touch, smell and hear the natural world around them during hands-on experiences.</p> <p>Practitioners will create opportunities to discuss how we care for the natural world around us.</p> <p>Adults will offer opportunities to sing songs and join in with rhymes and poems about the natural world.</p> <p>Opportunities, after close observation, to draw pictures of the natural world, including animals and plants.</p> <p>Children observing and interacting with natural processes, such as ice melting, a sound causing a vibration, light travelling through transparent material, an object casting a shadow, a magnet attracting an object and a boat floating on water.</p> <p>Adults encouraging focused observation of the natural world. Adults listening to children describing and commenting on things they have seen whilst outside, including plants and animals.</p> <p>Adults encouraging positive interaction with the outside world, offering children a chance to take supported risks, appropriate to themselves and the environment within which they are in. Adults naming and describing some plants and animals that children are likely to see, encouraging children to recognise familiar plants and animals whilst outside.</p> <p>Adults guiding children’s understanding by draw children’s attention to the weather and seasonal features.</p> <p>Adults providing opportunities for children to note and record the weather. Select texts to share about the changing seasons. Take children outside to observe the natural world and encourage children to observe how animals behave differently as the seasons change.</p> <p>Adults are looking for children incorporating their understanding of the seasons and weather in their play.</p>