

Science Teaching within the Early Years Foundation Stage



The Early Learning Goal for the aspect 'The World' within the Curriculum Area 'Understanding of the World' in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile is:

"Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes."

The Early Years Foundation Stage is underpinned by overarching 'Characteristics of effective Learning.' One strand of this is 'Creating and Thinking Critically.' Throughout the EYFS, children should apply these skills to support their scientific enquiry.

CoEL Creating and Thinking Critically	Throughout EYFS, children should apply these skills to Working Scientifically
Having their own ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking of ideas • Finding ways to solve problems • Finding new ways to do things
Making links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making links and noticing patterns in their experience • Making predictions • Testing their ideas • Developing ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect
Choosing ways to do things	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning, making decisions about how to approach a task, solve a problem and reach a goal • Checking how well their activities are going • Changing strategy as needed • Reviewing how well the approach worked •

In order to gain foundational knowledge and understanding which will support children's transition into Y1 and formal Science teaching following the National Curriculum, children will cover these topics in Reception.

EYFS – Science Topic Areas	
Biology	Plants
	Animals and their Habitats (Including Humans)
Chemistry	Everyday Materials
Physics	Light and Colour
	Sound