

SCIENCE VOCABULARY PROGRESSION



This is the Braishfield agreed progression of vocabulary in Science.

New words for each year group are in red. Vocabulary to be used and understood by all children.

This vocabulary should be included on unit overview sheets in red/blue, to indicate recapped and new vocabulary.

EYFS

GROWING AND CHANGING (ANIMALS)

GROWING AND CHANGING (PLANTS)

ANIMALS AND THEIR HABITATS

MATERIALS AND THEIR PROPERTIES

SEASONS

YEAR 1&2

DESCRIBING MATERIALS

hard
soft
rough
smooth
heavy
squash
flexible
strength
twisty
bendy
stretchy

fragile
brittle
waterproof
absorbent
properties
metal
rock
fabric
wood
plastic
paper
ceramic
suitable
purpose

ANIMAL SURVIVAL

organisms
growth
energy
fish
amphibians
mammals
birds
reptiles
herbivore
omnivore
carnivore
predator
prey
food chain
senses

HABITATS

variation
habitat
adapted
survive
avoid
wild plant
garden plant

SEASONS

spring

SCIENCE VOCABULARY PROGRESSION



summer
autumn
winter
hibernating
migration
evergreen
deciduous

PLANTS

seed
bulb
leaves
germination/germinate
roots
shoots
flowering/flowers
reproduction
generations

ANIMAL LIFE CYCLES

food chain
maturity
reproduce
die
offspring
life cycle
producer
consumer

CHANGING MATERIALS

changed
physical force
absorb
crumbly
property
drag
suitable
strongest
flexible

PUSHES AND PULLS

motion
pushing

pulling
slow down
speed up
direction

YEAR 3&4

MAGNETS

metal
magnet
force
attraction
repulsion
non-contact force
pole

ANIMALS, SKELETONS & MOVEMENT

mammals
reptiles
amphibians
fish
birds
predator
prey
omnivore
herbivore
carnivore
vertebrates
invertebrates
skeleton
exoskeleton
vital organs
support
mass
muscles
connect
contract

SOLIDS, LIQUIDS & GASES

hard
soft
rough
smooth
heavy

SCIENCE VOCABULARY PROGRESSION



squash
flexible
strength
twisty
bendy
stretchy
fragile
brittle
waterproof
absorbent
metal
wood
plastic
fabric
rock
paper
ceramic
state
solid
liquid
gas
gravity
viscous
heating
cooling
melting
boiling
evaporate
freeze
condense

PLANT FOOD PRODUCTION

roots
leaves
germination/germinate
shoots
flowering/flowers
reproduction
carbon dioxide
oxygen
soil

LIGHT

light source
shiny

transparent
opaque
reflective
translucent

ROCKS & SOILS

rock
crystal
mineral
ore
grains
fossil
sedimentary
igneous
metamorphic
porosity
hardness
soil
humus
silt

MIXTURES AND SEPARATING THEM

substance
mixture
dissolving
solution

DIGESTION

meat
dairy
protein
grains
root vegetable
carbohydrates
fat
insulation
fruits
minerals
vitamins
fibre
healthy
digestion

SCIENCE VOCABULARY PROGRESSION



PLANT REPRODUCTION

seed
germination
carbon dioxide
oxygen
roots
leaves
soil
pollination
stamen
stigma
ovaries
petals
dispersal

MAKING ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS WORK

electricity
batteries
mains electricity
device
wires
circuit
conductor
insulator

LIVING THINGS

vertebrates
invertebrates
food chain
nutrients
organism
mammal
amphibian
bird
vital organs
skeletons
exoskeletons
classification
classification key
environmental change

YEAR 5&6

FOSSILS, GEOLOGICAL TIME AND CLASSIFICATION

sedimentary
igneous
metamorphic
million
billion
evolution
extinct
fossil
palaeontologist
organism
microorganism
bacteria
microscope

SPACE & GRAVITY

solar system
planets
orbit
star
moon
rotating
day
year
galaxy
universe
asteroid
comet
gravity
mass

MAKING NEW SUBSTANCES

state
solid
liquid
gas
heating
cooling
melting
freezing
evaporating
substance
mixture
dissolving

SCIENCE VOCABULARY PROGRESSION



solution
matter
mass
react
irreversible

FORCES THAT OPPOSE MOTION

forces
push and pull
slow down
speed up
change direction
contact force
non-contact force
water resistance
air resistance
friction
undulations
interlock
gears
pulley
lever

CIRCULATION

oxygen
carbon dioxide
skeleton
muscles
contract
sugar (glucose)
lungs
circulation
heart

HOW LIGHT BEHAVES

transparent
translucent
reflection
opaque
shadow
pupil
nocturnal

CLASSIFICATION AND EVOLUTION

evolution
extinct
fossil
palaeontologist
natural selection
population
variation
competition
adapted
offspring
inheritance
Charles Darwin
Lamarck
HMS Beagle

CONTROLLING ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS

electricity
batteries
wires
insulator
conductor
circuit
current
voltage
volts
conductor
resistance
resistor

SOUND

sound
pitch
volume
vibration
ear drum
frequency
amplitude
