



Science in EYFS



Science is taught in the Early Years Foundation Stage through the areas of learning 'Communication and language', 'Personal, social and emotional development' and 'Understanding the World'. Children will then be assessed at the end of the Foundation Stage in the Early Learning goals of 'Listening, attention and understanding', 'Self-regulation' and 'The natural world'. Children learn through a combination of child initiated and adult directed activities that encourage every child to explore, problem solve, observe, predict, think, make decisions and talk about the world around them.

Weekly Welly Wednesday sessions enable children to explore the natural world around them and describe what they can see, hear and feel. This will include sound walks, scavenger hunts in different seasons and naming the plants and animals we see. We also develop our understanding of the effect of the changing seasons by using the woods all year round and also learn about how plants and animals change during the year. As well as using our woods, children will also have a visit from a vet and watch chicks hatch from eggs kept in an incubator.

Talking is a crucial element of 'science' in the Early Years. We introduce and consolidate new vocabulary and provide opportunities for children to share ideas and build understanding, developing their skills of observation, prediction, critical thinking and discussion. Children will be encouraged to ask questions about why things happen and how things work. Children will learn through activities such as increasing the incline of a slope to observe how fast a vehicle travels, or opening a mechanical toy to see how it works. Children will also be asked questions about what they think will happen to help them communicate, plan, investigate, record and evaluate findings.

Children will also learn about the different factors that support their overall health and wellbeing. Through cooking activities children learn about healthy food choices. P.E sessions enable discussion on the importance of exercise and what happens to our bodies when we exercise. Picture books are used to support and discuss the importance of a healthy lifestyle. There are also visits from the dental nurse, coastguard and PSCO to further support learning about healthy lifestyles.