



**St. Paul's  
C.E. Primary School**  
Together on life's great adventure

# Scientific vocabulary progression

Created with Claire Holt  
[claire@teachingfromtheheart.co.uk](mailto:claire@teachingfromtheheart.co.uk)



# Plants

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Leaf	Bulb	Function
Flower	Shoot	Absorb
Blossom	Germinate	Nutrients
Petals	Bud	Life cycle
Fruit	Soil	Pollen
Roots	Temperature	Pollination
Seed	Growth	Pollinator
Branch	Flowering	Reproduce
Trunk	Non-flowering	Dispersal
Stem		



# Humans



Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Senses	Offspring	Nutrition	Digestive system	Gestation	Circulatory system
Skeleton	Survival	Support	Digestion	Embryo	Blood vessel
Sight	Exercise	Protection	Incisor	Foetus	Artery
Touch	Healthy	Movement	Canine	Childhood	Vein
Taste	Unhealthy	Spine	Molar	Adolescence	Cell
Hearing	Diet	Ribcage	Oesophagus	Puberty	Oxygen
Smell	Hygiene	Pelvis	Stomach	Life expectancy	Nutrients
		Skull	Intestine	Reproduction	Organs
		Muscle	Rectum		Disease
		Contract	Anus		Obesity



# Animals

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Fish	Offspring	Vertebrate	Prey	Gestation	Circulatory system
Amphibian	Adult	Invertebrate	Predator	Life expectancy	Blood vessel
Reptile	Survive	Nutrition	Producer		Artery
Mammal	Feeding	Skeleton	Consumer		Vein
Bird	Drinking	Muscle	Decomposer		Cell
Skin	Breathing	Support	Omnivore		Oxygen
Scales	Exercise	Protection	Carnivore		Nutrients
Fur	Hygiene	Movement	Herbivore		Organs
Feathers			Energy		
			Nutrients		

# Living things and their habitats

Year 2	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Habitat	Classify	Life cycle	Characteristics
Micro-habitat	Classification	Reproduce	Micro-organism
Food chain	Key	Sexual reproduction	Kingdom (animals, plants, fungi, bacteria, protists)
Environment	Revise: vertebrate, invertebrate, mammal, amphibian, reptile, bird, fish, flowering, non- flowering	Asexual reproduction	Category
Adaptation		Stamen	Phylum
Shelter		Carpel	Class
		Stigma	Order
		Pollen	Family
	Impact	Fertilize	Genus
		Ovary	Species

# Seasonal change

Year 1 Seasonal change
Weather
Seasons
Temperature
Sunrise
Sunset

# Earth and space



Year 5 Earth and space
Axis
Tilt
Orbit
Rotate
Rotation
Spherical
Planet
Solar system
Reflect

# Materials

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 Rocks	Year 4 States of Matter	Year 5 Materials & their properties
Soft	See-through	Magma	Matter	Insulator
Hard	Transparent	Lava	Solid	Conductor
Rough	Translucent	Metamorphic	Liquid	Thermal
Smooth	Opaque	Sedimentary	Gas	Reversible
Stretchy	Absorbent	Igneous	Evaporation	Irreversible
Stiff	Suitable	Crust	Evaporate	Dissolve
Shiny	Unsuitable	Fossil	Condensation	Filter
Dull	Flexible	Decay	Temperature	Sieve
Flexible	Rigid	Grains	Solidify	Solution
Waterproof		Crystals		Soluble

# Light

Year 3	Year 6
Light	Revise from Y3 - source, shadow, reflect, reflective, surface
Dark	Ray
Reflect	Absorb
Reflective	
Non-reflective	
Shadow	
Source	
Revise from Y2 - transparent, translucent, opaque	
Surface	
Distance	



# Electricity



Year 4	Year 6
Appliance	Electric current
Circuit	Positive
Electrical/electricity/electric	Negative
Cell	Volts
Wire	Symbol
Buzzer/Motor	Revise: appliance, circuit, cell, wire, buzzer/motor, battery, switch, conductor, insulator
Battery	
Switch	
Conductor	
Insulator	



# Forces

# Sound



Year 3 Forces & Magnets	Year 5 Forces
Force	Air / Water resistance
Attract	Upthrust
Repel	Gravity
Magnetic	Springs
Non-magnetic	Lever
Magnetism	Fulcrum
Pole	Pulley
Friction	Gear
Force meter / Newton meter	Streamlined - Drag
	Mechanism / machine

Year 4
Sound wave
Vibrate
Vibration
Eardrum
High pitch
Low pitch

# Evolution & Inheritance



Year 6
Evolution
Adapt/adaptation
Characteristics
Species
Generation
Identical
Inherit/inheritance
Vary/variation



KSI scientific equipment that we want the children to know and be able to use



Beaker



Thermometer



Magnifying glass



Sieve



Funnel



Weighing scales



Binoculars



Magnet



Tape measure



Pooter

# LKS2 scientific equipment that we want the children to know and be able to use



Measuring Cylinder



Thermometer



Newton meter



Syringe



Funnel



Pipette



Filter paper



Stopwatch



Datalogger



Test tube



Torch



Mirror

# UKS2 scientific equipment that we want the children to know and be able to use



Measuring Cylinder



Pestle & mortar



Newton meter



Syringe



Petri dish



Pipette



Filter paper



Litmus paper



Datalogger



Test tube



Microscope