

## Science – National Curriculum scope and ambition checklist

	Nursery - Understanding the World – Development Matters	✓	Reception - Understanding the World – Development Matters	✓
Plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant seeds and care for growing plants.</li> <li>Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.</li> <li>Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.</li> </ul>	✓	Explore the natural world around them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After close observation, draw pictures of the natural world, including animals and plants.</li> </ul> Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen to children describing and commenting on things they have seen whilst outside, including plants and animals</li> <li>Name and describe some plants and animals children are likely to see, encouraging children to recognise familiar plants and animals whilst outside.</li> </ul>	✓
Animals including humans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue developing positive attitudes about the differences between people.</li> </ul>	✓	Explore the natural world around them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After close observation, draw pictures of the natural world, including animals and plants.</li> </ul> Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen to children describing and commenting on things they have seen whilst outside, including plants and animals</li> <li>Name and describe some plants and animals children are likely to see, encouraging children to recognise familiar plants and animals whilst outside.</li> </ul>	✓
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials. Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties.</li> <li>Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.</li> <li>Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice.</li> </ul>	✓	Explore the natural world around them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Observe and interact 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.</li> </ul>	✓
Forces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore how things work.</li> <li>Explore and talk about different forces they can feel.</li> </ul>	✓		
Seasonal changes			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.</li> </ul>	✓

### The Natural World ELG (end of reception)

Children at the expected level of development will:

- Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants;
- Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;
- Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

	Year 1	✓	Year 2	✓
Plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees</li> <li>identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees</li> </ul>	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants</li> <li>find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy</li> </ul>	✓
Animals including humans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals</li> <li>identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores</li> <li>describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals including pets)</li> <li>identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense</li> </ul>	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults</li> <li>find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air)</li> <li>describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene</li> </ul>	✓
Materials	<p>Everyday materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made</li> <li>identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock</li> <li>describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials</li> <li>compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties</li> </ul>	✓	<p>Using everyday materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses</li> <li>find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching</li> </ul>	✓
Seasonal changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>observe changes across the 4 seasons</li> <li>observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies</li> </ul>	✓		
Living things and their habitats			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive</li> <li>identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other</li> <li>identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats</li> <li>describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food</li> <li></li> </ul>	✓

