

Science Curriculum at Stamshaw Infant School

Intent

At Stamshaw Infant School, we aim to make Science lessons exciting, hands on and full of awe and wonder. We help children to recognise that Science is present in everyday life and is evident all around us. We ensure that children notice the links between Science and other areas of the curriculum such as Maths and Design Technology. We encourage children to ask questions and then help them to find the answers. We believe that for children to really understand and remember the learning, they need to have a child-led approach to the direction of the learning. We ensure that prior understanding of different aspects of scientific learning are recognised and then built upon, ensuring children are supported in their learning and encouraged to deepen their knowledge where relevant. We aim for children to be resilient and resourceful in their learning and to develop a lifelong love of science.

Implementation

Children are taught Science weekly and one area of the Science curriculum is taught each half term. We currently use 'Developing Experts' to support our teaching. The scientific learning begins with the opportunity to share existing knowledge and identify areas for further development. The learning is shaped to ensure a secure understanding is developed and the prior learning is built upon. We offer children lots of opportunities for hands on experiences and fun. Children complete lots of experiments to enable them to explore concepts practically. We have a science week and provide opportunities to explore science outside in our playground and on school trips to Longdown Activity Farm, Marwell Zoo and Chichester Harbour. Real life concepts are linked where possible to increase cultural capital and children's engagement and understanding. We ensure scientific language is shared and used regularly with the children as we believe this subject specific language underpins the scientific knowledge required by children. Working scientifically skills are woven into all Science lessons and the different areas are made explicit to children. We vary the tasks and outcomes given to children and ensure that they allow for all children to flourish and strive for success. Children in Early Years cover the aspects of Science from the EYFS framework regularly across the year in engaging and exciting ways. We also have a team of 'Eco Warriors' across the school who help their class with tasks such as recycling, turning the taps and lights off and helping to protect our school environment and planet. The children also have meetings with the school Site Manager to find out more ways we can help to protect the planet and our school

Impact

At the end of each lesson, teachers use formative assessment to decide the direction of the next lesson and where there are any misconceptions that need to be addressed or learning that can be deepened for some children. The Science subject leader monitors Science throughout the school through regular book looks, discussions with class teachers and pupil discussions. Science books are used in Key Stage 1 to evidence learning and Science work is evident in Learning Journals in Early Years. We feel that children at Stamshaw Infant School are inspired by their Science lessons and are keen to ask questions and find out more. Children are provided with fun, engaging and practical lessons that are accessible for all. We believe that children should show curiosity and passion for Science, asking questions and exploring themes.