



Science Vocabulary Ladder

EYFS

In EYFS, we expect children to understand and use the following words or their associated meanings:

Animals: head eyes nose mouth ears hands fingers feet toes arm animal herbivore face carnivore hair omnivore leg human knee fish elbow birds back

Plants: tree leaf flower stem seed petals trunk fruit branch roots leaves bulb

Materials: material wood glass paper hard soft metal wood rock plastic fabric smooth shiny rough

Seasonal Changes: Summer day Spring dark Autumn light Winter night Season Moon

Forces, Earth & Space: Earth Moon Sun star Planet space

Sound, Light & Electricity: loud quiet loud volume sound

Key Stage 1 Working Scientifically

Investigation Enquiry What to change What we used What we did What we found out Question Answer Observe Equipment Identify

Classify Sort Group Record Diagram Chart Map Data Compare Contrast Describe Biology Chemistry Physics

	Autumn		Spring	Summer
Year 1	Animals including Humans Fish Reptiles Mammals Birds Amphibians Herbivore Carnivore Omnivore Head Ear Eye Mouth Nose Leg Knee Arm Elbow Back Wings Beak	Seasonal Changes Summer Spring Autumn Winter Season Sun Day Moon Night Light Dark	Everyday Materials Material Wood Plastic Glass Paper Fabric Metal Rock Hard Soft Smooth Shiny Rough Bendy Flexible	Plants Evergreen Deciduous Tree Branches Trunk Leaves Flowers Blossom Petals Fruit Roots Bulb Seed Stem
	Animals including Humans Survival Water Air Oxygen Food Adult Baby Offspring Kitten Calf Puppy Foal Exercise Hygiene	Living Things in Their Habitats Living Dead Habitat Micro-habitat Energy Food chain Prey Predator Woodland Pond Desert	Materials and Their uses Stiff Shiny / Dull Rough Smooth Waterproof Absorbent Transparent / Opaque Brick Fabric Foil Squashing Bending Twisting Stretching Elastic	Plants Seeds Bulb Water Light Temperature Growth

Key Stage 2 Working Scientifically

Investigation	Enquiry	Prediction	Variable	Dependent variable	Independent variable	Constant	Patterns	Equipment
Apparatus	Method	Results	Conclusion	Research	Relevant questions	Comparative and fair test	Systematic	Careful
observation	Accurate measurements	Thermometer	Data logger	Gather	Present	Labelled diagrams	Keys	Bar charts
Tables	Evidence	Improve	Secondary sources	Guides	Construct	Interpret	Precision	Repeat readings
	Classification keys	Scatter graphs	Line graphs	Causal relationship	Explanations	Degree of trust		
	Support, refute ideas or arguments	Identify, classify and describe patterns	Systematic quantitative measurements					

Year 3	Rocks, soils and Fossils Sandstone Limestone Granite Marble Pumice Slate Crystals Properties Permeable / impermeable Hardness Sedimentary Igneous Metamorphic Fossils Soil organic matter Humus	Light and Shadows Light Dark Shadows Blocking Mirror Reflect Reflective Reflection	Animals including Humans Bones Muscles Skull Ribs Skeleton Support Protection Movement Herbivore Carnivore Omnivore Teeth Canine Incisor Molar	Magnets and Forces Force Push Pull Contact Magnetic Attract Repel Poles (north / south) Friction Resistance	Plants Air Light Water Soil Nutrients Reproduction Seed formation Dispersal Germination Pollination Transportation Species Location Photosynthesis
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Year 4	Living Things and Their habitats Fish Reptiles Mammals Birds Amphibians Snails Slugs Worms Spiders Insects Environment Habitat Vertebrate Invertebrate Exoskeleton Adaptation	Electricity Cells Batteries Wires Switches Circuit Series Parallel Buzzers Bulbs Mains Insulators Conductors	States of Matter Solid Liquid Gas Temperature Heating Freezing point Boiling point Particles Evaporation Condensation Thermometer Thermal insulation	Sound Volume Vibration Sound wave Loud Soft High pitch Low pitch one Speaker Amplitude Frequency	Animals including Humans Mouth Tongue Teeth Canine Incisor Molar Oesophagus Stomach small intestine Large intestine Herbivore Carnivore Omnivore
Year 5	Earth and Space Earth Sea Sun Moon Axis Planets Solar system Star Constellation Phases of the moon Waxing Waning Gibbous moon Full moon	Properties and Changes of Materials Hardness Solubility Mixing Dissolving Melting Solution Solute Transparency Conductivity Magnetic Filter Filtration Evaporation Condensation Reacting / reactants Squashing Bending Twisting Stretching Elastic	Animals including Humans Foetus Embryo Womb Gestation Baby Toddler Teenager Puberty Adolescent Adult Elderly Development Growth	Living Things and Their Habitats Reproduction of mammal Bird Insect Amphibian Offspring Complete / Incomplete Metamorphosis Hatch	Forces Force Friction Newton Gravity Newton meters Air resistance Water resistance Gears Pulleys Levers

Year 6	Light Reflection Refraction Lens Light spectrum Colour Prism Rainbow	Electricity Cells Batteries Wires Bulbs Switches Buzzers Circuit Series Parallel Conductors Insulators Amps Volts	Animals including Humans Heart Blood Circulatory system Blood vessels Veins Arteries Valves Oxygenated Deoxygenated Exercise Pulse Respiration	Evolution and inheritance Fossils Adaptation Evolution Characteristics Reproduction Genetics	Living things in their habitats Classification Mammals Birds Amphibians Fish Reptiles Insects Vertebrates Invertebrates Micro-organisms Bacteria Fungi
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