

Progression in knowledge

National Curriculum statements in red are from other linked topics.

Forces

Early learning goal	 Communication and Language - Listening, Attention and Understanding Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding. Personal, Social and Emotional Development - Managing Self Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing, going to the toilet and understanding the importance of healthy food choices. Understanding the World - The Natural World 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	 Find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching (Y2 Uses of everyday materials)
Year 3	 Compare how things move on different surfaces. Notice that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance. Observe how magnets attract or repel each other and attract some materials and not others. Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet, and identify some magnetic materials. Describe magnets as having two poles. Predict whether two magnets will attract or repel each other, depending on which poles are facing.
Year 4	

Year 5	 Explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object. Identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction that act between moving surfaces. Recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.
Year 6	
KS3	 Magnetic fields by plotting with compass, representation by field lines Earth's magnetism, compass and navigation Forces as pushes or pulls, arising from the interaction between two objects. Using force arrows in diagrams, adding forces in one dimension, balanced and unbalanced forces. Moment as the turning effect of a force. Forces: associated with deforming objects; stretching and squashing – springs; with rubbing and friction between surfaces, with pushing things out of the way; resistance to motion of air and water. Forces measured in Newtons, measurements of stretch or compression as force is changed.