

Progression in knowledge

National Curriculum statements in red are from other linked topics.

Materials

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	 Distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made. Identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock. Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials. Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties.
Year 2	 Identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for particular uses. Find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.
Year 3	 Compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. (Y3 Rocks) Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock. (Y3 Rocks) 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. (Y3 Forces and magnets)

Year 4	 Compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases. Observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius (°C). Identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature. Recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors. (Y4 Electricity)
Year 5	 Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets. Know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution and describe how to recover a substance from a solution. Use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating. Give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic. Demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes. Explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not usually reversible, including changes associated with burning and the action of acid on bicarbonate of soda.
Year 6	
KS3	 Chemical reactions as the rearrangement of atoms. Representing chemical reactions using formulae and using equations. Combustion, thermal decomposition, oxidation and displacement reactions. Defining acids and alkalis in terms of neutralisation reactions. The pH scale for measuring alkalinity; and indicators.