Subject on a Page – Science

Why we teach it?

At Marsh Lane Primary School, we recognise the importance of science in every aspect of daily life. As a core subject, we give the teaching and learning of science the prominence it requires. The aim of our science curriculum is to enable pupils to think critically and communicate their understanding. Children are taught to question the world around them and to seek answers. We want our students to have the opportunity to apply their scientific skills in different contexts across the curriculum.

Intent – What we teach

At Marsh Lane Primary School, we follow the 2014 National Curriculum and the 2021 Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage, where children develop knowledge, skills and vocabulary that are progressive and build on prior learning.

Our children begin their science experience in EYFS with informal investigations within the setting. Teachers facilitate children's curiosity with open-ended questions and learning experiences, which are both child led and adult led.

In Years 3-5, science knowledge is taught on a two-year rolling programme to ensure mixed age classes cover all aspects of the science curriculum throughout their time at Marsh Lane Primary School. In years 1, 2 and 6 children follow a yearly plan. Working scientifically is clearly related and taught through our teaching of the three main disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. Children will reflect and recap on previous learning and cross-curricular links will be made wherever possible.

Implementation - How we teach it

At Marsh Lane Primary School, we implement a curriculum that allows the children to develop their scientific knowledge and understanding through enquiry and investigation. We achieve this by:

- Teaching science weekly.
- Using the Twinkl resources.
- Providing a practical and hands-on approach to lessons when appropriate, allowing children to experience the sciences that surround them in an engaging way.
- Teaching scientific enquiry alongside scientific knowledge.
- Teaching science knowledge progressively, building on prior knowledge.
- Beginning each lesson with a recap session to check on previous understanding. This covers last week's learning but will also link to prior learning.
- Making links with science and literacy: use of books to engage, scientific writing, oracy skills, planned writing opportunities, reading and scientific vocabulary.
- Using subject specific vocabulary that is age related and progressive.
- Including work on influential scientists.

Impact – evaluation of the above

The impact and measure of our curriculum is not only to acquire age related knowledge and skills but for the children to achieve their full potential in science, be curious, see themselves as scientists and never stop being amazed at the wonders our world has to offer.

By the time the children leave Marsh Lane Primary School they will:

- Reach age-related expectations for science.
- Be confident and curious children who can eagerly talk about their science lessons and discoveries demonstrating a love of science.
- See themselves as scientists as they ask questions, plan and carry out own enquiries with increasing independence.
- Have a secure knowledge of the areas taught in chemistry, physics and biology where the children make links.
- Talk confidently about science using scientific vocabulary effectively.

Examples found here - Subjects on a page | Colerne CE Primary School (colerneschool.com)