

Science in the Early Years



Learning about making healthy life choices during our visit from Harold on The Life Bus.



Learning about forces by making wind streamers and testing them outside.



Learning about recycling and caring for our world during a visit from Dorset Waste Partnership.

Investigating objects that float and sink during child-initiated learning.



Searching for bugs during an Autumn Treasure Hunt and identifying them.



Looking for natural objects in the outdoor environment and sorting these according to chosen criteria.

Science at Foundation Stage (Reception) is covered in the 'Understanding the World' area of the EYFS Curriculum. It is introduced indirectly through activities that encourage your child to explore, problem solve, observe, predict, think, make decisions and talk about the world around them. Early Years Science also helps children with skills in other Foundation Stage areas of the National Curriculum, such as Physical Development and Expressive Arts and Design.

During their first year at school your child will explore creatures, people, plants and objects in their natural environments. They will observe and manipulate objects and materials to identify differences and similarities. For example, they may look at an egg whisk, sand, paper and water to learn about things that are natural and manmade and their different functions. They will also learn to use their senses, feeling dough or listening to sounds in the environment, such as sirens or farm animals. They will make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur and talk about changes.

Your child will be encouraged to ask questions about why things happen and how things work. They might do activities such as increasing the incline of a slope to observe how fast a vehicle travels, or opening a mechanical toy to see how it works. Your child will also be asked questions about what they think will happen to help them communicate, plan, investigate, record and evaluate findings.