Nurturing the Future, Inspiring Success

Science

Intent

At North Farnborough Infant School we understand that the learners of today will be the scientists of tomorrow. We believe that science is inclusive and fosters curiosity in all children. We encourage children to be inquisitive and have a questioning approach to what they learn in science. There is an emphasis on investigation and problem solving set within meaningful contexts where our children can find out about the variety of life, materials and physical processes within the world around them. We believe that encouraging an active involvement in practical work in science enables children to develop and explore their enquiry skills, be encouraged to explain what is happening, predict what may happen, and begin to analyse and reason. We believe that these opportunities will ensure that our children are confident, life-long learners who recognise the importance of science in every part of daily life.

The National Curriculum for science aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Develop scientific knowledge and conceptual understanding through the specific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics
- Develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them
- Are equipped with the scientific knowledge required to understand the uses and implications of science, today and for the future

Implementation

In Year R, science is explored through the specific area of 'Understanding the World.' In Key Stage One, science lessons follow the National Curriculum, while placing a greater emphasis on children understanding and exploring the world around them as well as retaining the knowledge they have learned. Through our science topics the children ask questions about what they notice, express their opinions and make links with other areas of learning such as history, geography and mathematics. At North Farnborough we teach scientific concepts through the use of first-hand practical experiences as well as using some appropriate secondary sources, such as books, photographs and videos to support children's learning. The children have opportunities to develop their understanding of scientific ideas by using different types of scientific enquiry to answer questions. These include observing changes over a period of time in our longitudinal studies, noticing patterns, making links as well as grouping and classifying. Wherever possible we make use of our extensive school grounds to enhance the opportunities for first-hand experience and for children to discover for themselves. We also provide enrichment opportunities by having visits from e.g. Spirit of the Wild – the zoo that comes to you.

Science is taught weekly in Key Stage 1.