Science

Intent

We intend to stimulate and nurture the scientific understanding and wonder of science in all children
We will provide a curriculum:

- that is engaging - QUESTIONNING
- that promotes curiosity in the world around them – ORACY/PROBLEM SOLVING
- that encourages exploration - INVESTIGATION

In a Science lesson you will see:

- Children being independent
- Pupil Voice using new vocabulary
- Making predictions
- Practical investigations
- Curious learners – buzz of excitement.
- Children making links to the real world
- Reasoning and thinking
- Observing and pattern seeking.
- Drawing conclusions

Spoken Language

The national curriculum for science reflects the importance of spoken language in pupils' development across the whole curriculum – cognitively, socially and linguistically. The quality and variety of language that pupils hear and speak are key factors in developing their scientific vocabulary and articulating scientific concepts clearly and precisely. They must be assisted in making their thinking clear, both to themselves and others, and teachers will ensure that pupils build secure foundations by using discussion to probe and remedy their misconceptions. The vocabulary that children will be learning for each topic will be displayed in the classroom for the children to access and to use to support their spoken interactions with the teachers and their peers. The teaching staff will endeavour to make this vocabulary as specific and accurate as possible. There will be an expectation that children use scientific vocabulary accurately in their written work.

How science is taught at Brimpton Primary School

At Brimpton School we aim to teach science for 1 hour per week, which may be taught as a full afternoon every 2 weeks. It will be delivered through discrete teaching of topics, planning in links to other curriculum areas to enhance learning. The school will plan using a range of resources (Hamilton Trust, Twinkl, Classroom secrets) to ensure there is progression in scientific concepts and skills.

Science topics are taught on a rolling cycle Plan A and Plan B – please see Science coverage document.

Cross curricular links with Science and other subjects are important at Brimpton. Examples of these are:
Maths when looking at statistics and using scientific data to format.
Literacy when looking at non chronological reports and children are expressing their findings or writing up an investigation.
History when children are researching a famous person such as Mary Anning) a good representation of women in Stem)

Assessment

A variety of assessment methods are used to build a picture of the children's learning. Assessment is used not only to track pupils' learning but also to provide teachers with information about what pupils do and do not know.

This information allows teachers to adapt their teaching so it builds on pupils' existing knowledge, addresses their weaknesses, and focuses on the next steps that they need in order to make progress. Teachers' knowledge of pupils' strengths and weaknesses is used to inform their planning of future lessons and the focus of targeted support.

In order to achieve this, teachers will aim to elicit the scientific understanding of their children through formative assessment at the beginning of a scientific topic. Written assessments are reported to parents annually, via the school report.