

Hartford Primary School Progression in Scientific Vocabulary



Year 1 Scientific Vocabulary	
Plants	leaf, flower, blossom, petal, fruit, berry, root, seed, trunk, branch, stem, bark, stalk, bud Names of trees in the local area Names of garden and wild flowering plants in the local area
Animals	head, body, eyes, ears, mouth, teeth, leg, tail, wing, claw, fin, scales, feathers, fur, beak, paws, hooves
Humans	senses, touch, see, smell, taste, hear, fingers (skin), eyes, nose, ear and tongue
Everyday Materials	object, material, wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, rock, brick, paper, fabric, elastic, foil, card/cardboard, rubber, wool, clay, hard, soft, stretchy, stiff, bendy, floppy, waterproof, absorbent, breaks/tears, rough, smooth, shiny, dull, see through, not see through
Seasonal Change	weather (sunny, rainy, windy, snowy etc.), seasons (Winter, Summer, Spring, Autumn), sun, sunrise, sunset, day length

Year 2 Scientific Vocabulary	
Living Things and Their Habitats	living, dead, never been alive, suited, suitable, basic needs, food, food chain, shelter, move, feed, names of local habitats e.g. pond, woodland etc., names of micro-habitats e.g. under logs, in bushes etc.
Plants	leaf, flower, blossom, petal, fruit, berry, root, seed, trunk, branch, stem, bark, stalk, bud, light, shade, sun, warm, cool, water, grow, healthy
Uses of Everyday Materials	object, material, wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, rock, brick, paper, fabric, elastic, foil, card/cardboard, rubber, wool, clay, hard, soft, stretchy, stiff, bendy, floppy, waterproof, absorbent, breaks/tears, rough, smooth, shiny, dull, see through, not see through, opaque, transparent and translucent, reflective, non-reflective, flexible, rigid Shape, push/pushing, pull/pulling, twist/twisting, squash/squashing. Bend/bending, stretch/stretching

Animals Including Humans	offspring, reproduction, growth, child, young/old stages (examples - chick/hen, baby/child/adult, caterpillar/butterfly), exercise, heartbeat, breathing, hygiene, germs, disease, food types (examples – meat, fish, vegetables, bread, rice, pasta)
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Year 3 Scientific Vocabulary

Plants	photosynthesis, pollen, insect/wind pollination, seed formation, seed dispersal – wind dispersal, animal dispersal, water dispersal
Animals including Humans	nutrition, nutrients, carbohydrates, sugars, protein, vitamins, minerals, fibre, fat, water, skeleton, bones, muscles, support, protect, move, skull, ribs, spine, muscles, joints
Rocks & Soil	rock, stone, pebble, boulder, grain, crystals, layers, hard, soft, texture, absorb water, soil, fossil, marble, chalk, granite, sandstone, slate, soil, peat, sandy/chalk/clay soil
Light	light, light source, dark, absence of light, transparent, translucent, opaque, shiny, matt, surface, shadow, reflect, mirror, sunlight, dangerous
Forces & Magnets	force, push, pull, twist, contact force, non-contact force, magnetic force, magnet, strength, bar magnet, ring magnet, button magnet, horseshoe magnet, attract, repel, magnetic material, metal, iron, steel, poles, north pole, south pole

Year 4 Scientific Vocabulary

Living Things and Their Habitats	classification, classification keys, environment, habitat, human impact, positive, negative, migrate, hibernate
Animals Including Humans	digestive system, digestion, mouth, teeth, saliva, oesophagus, stomach, small intestine, nutrients, large intestine, rectum, anus, teeth, incisor, canine, molar, premolars, herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, producer, predator, prey, food chain
States of Matter	solid, liquid, gas, state change, melting, freezing, melting point, boiling point, evaporation, temperature, water cycle
Sound	sound, source, vibrate, vibration, travel, pitch (high, low), volume, faint, loud, insulation

Electricity	electricity, electrical appliance/device, mains, plug, electrical circuit, complete circuit, component, cell, battery, positive, negative, connect/connections, loose connection, short circuit, crocodile clip, bulb, switch, buzzer, motor, conductor, insulator, metal, non-metal, symbol N.B. Children in year 4 do not need to use standard symbols as this is taught in year 6
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Year 5 Scientific Vocabulary	
Living Things and Their Habitats	life cycle, reproduce, sexual, sperm, fertilises, egg, live young, metamorphosis, asexual, plantlets, runners, bulbs, cuttings
Animals Including Humans	Puberty: the vocabulary to describe sexual characteristics
Properties and Changes of Materials	thermal/electrical insulator/conductor, change of state, mixture, dissolve, solution, soluble, insoluble, filter, sieve reversible/non-reversible change, burning, rusting, new material
Earth and Space	Earth, Sun, Moon, (Mercury, Jupiter, Saturn, Venus, Mars, Uranus, Neptune) spherical, solar system, rotates, star, orbit, planets
Forces	force, gravity, Earth, air resistance, water resistance, friction, mechanisms, simple machines, levers, pulleys, gears

Year 6 Scientific Vocabulary	
Living Things and Their Habitats	vertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, invertebrates, insects, spiders, snails, worms, flowering and non-flowering
Animals Including Humans	heart, pulse, rate, pumps, blood, blood vessels, transported, lungs, oxygen, carbon dioxide, nutrients, water, muscles, cycle, circulatory system, diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle

Evolution and Inheritance	offspring, sexual reproduction, vary, characteristics, suited, adapted, environment, inherited, species, fossils
Light	light, light source, dark, absence of light, transparent, translucent, opaque, shiny, matt, surface, shadow, reflect, mirror, sunlight, dangerous, straight lines, light rays.
Electricity	Circuit, complete circuit, circuit diagram, circuit symbol, cell, battery, bulb, buzzer, motor, switch, voltage NB Children do not need to understand what voltage is but will use volts and voltage to describe different batteries. The words cells and batteries are now used interchangeably