

St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School – Science Progression of Knowledge

Key skills	Pre-School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Plants	To identify and	To identify and name	Identify and	Observe	Identify and			
	name some plants	some common	name a variety	and	describe the			
	we eat e.g. fruits	garden plants and	of common wild	describe	functions of			
	and vegetables.	some plants we eat.	and garden	how seeds	different			
			plants, including	and bulbs	parts of			
	To know a plant	To know a plant grows	deciduous and	grow into	flowering			
	grows from a seed.	from either a seed or	evergreen trees	mature	plants: roots,			
		a bulb.		plants	stem/trunk,			
	To be able to name		Identify and		leaves and			
	and recognise the	To label the basic	describe the	Find out	flowers			
	main parts of plant	parts of a flowering	basic structure	and				
	e.g. leaves, flower	plant e.g. leaf, root,	of a variety of	describe	Explore the			
	and petals.	stem and flower.	common	how plants	requirements			
			flowering	need water,	of plants for			
	To know plants	To know plants need	plants, including	light and a	life and			
	need water to grow.	water and sunlight to	trees	suitable	growth (air,			
		grow healthy.		temperature	light, water,			
					nutrients			

to grow and stay healthy and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed	 					
grow) and how they vary from plant to plant Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,			to grow and	from soil,		
how they vary from plant to plant Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,			stay healthy	and room to		
vary from plant to plant Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				grow) and		
plant to plant Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				how they		
Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				vary from		
Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				plant to		
the way in which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				plant		
the way in which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,						
the way in which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				Investigate		
which water is transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,						
transported within plants Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,						
Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				is		
Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				transported		
Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				within plants		
part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,						
flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				Explore the		
in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				part that		
cycle of flowering plants, including pollination,				flowers play		
flowering plants, including pollination,				in the life		
plants, including pollination,				cycle of		
including pollination,				flowering		
pollination,				plants,		
				including		
seed				pollination,		
				seed		

					formation			
					and seed			
					dispersal			
	Pre-School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	To name some	To describe the	Identify and	Notice that	Identify that	Describe the	Describe the	Identify and
Animals	common pets, zoo	lifecycle of a frog and	name a variety	animals,	animals,	simple	changes as	name the
including	and farm animals	a hen.	of common	including	including	functions of	humans	main parts of
Humans			animals	humans,	humans,	the basic	develop to old	the human
	To know and talk	To be able to name	including fish,	have	need the	parts of the	age.	circulatory
	about the lifecycle	some Arctic and	amphibians,	offspring	right types	digestive	Explain the	system, and
	of a butterfly	Antarctic animals	reptiles, birds	which grow	and amount	system in	human	describe the
			and mammals	into adults	of nutrition,	humans.	lifecycle from	functions of
		To know and name			and that		conception to	the heart,
		some nocturnal	Identify and	Find out	they cannot	Identify the	old age.	blood vessels
	To know and talk	animals	name a variety	about and	make their	different		and blood
	about the basic		of common	describe the	own food;	types of		
	human life cycle.	To recognise and	animals that are	basic needs	they get	teeth in		Recognise the
	(baby, child, adult)	name some common	carnivores,	of animals,	nutrition	humans and		impact of diet,
		mini-beasts found on	herbivores and	including	from what	their simple		exercise,
	To know how they	the school grounds	omnivores	humans, for	they eat.	functions.		drugs and
	are different from			survival				lifestyle on
	when they were a	To recognise and	Describe and	(water, food	Identify that			the way their
	baby	name some common	compare the	and air)	humans and	Construct		bodies
		insects found on the	structure of a		some other	and interpret		function
		school grounds	variety of		animals have	a variety of		

To know and name		common	Describe	skeletons	food chains,	Describe the
some external body	To know that insects	animals (fish,	the	and muscles	identifying	ways in which
parts (See vocab	have wings, 6 legs and	amphibians,	importance	for support,	producers,	nutrients and
list)	antennae	reptiles, birds	for humans	protection	predators	water are
		and mammals,	of exercise,	and	and prey.	transported
	To know that a spider	including pets)	eating the	movement.		within
To know fruits and	has 8 legs, no wings		right			animals,
vegetables are	and no antennae.	Identify, name,	amounts of			including
healthy to eat		draw and label	different			humans
	To know some spiders	the basic parts	types of			
To know that water	have webs.	of the human	food, and			
and milk is healthy		body and say	hygiene			
to drink.	To know that we are	which part of				
	called humans	the body is				
To know how to		associated with				
keep clean e.g.	To know and recall the	each sense				
washing hands and	human life cycle (
brushing teeth	baby, toddler, child,					
	teenager, adult, old					
	person)					
	To know humans grow					
	and change over time.					

To	know and name			
	ne external and			
Inte	ernal body parts.			
То	know that humans			
hav	ve a skeleton that is			
mad	de of bones.			
To	know and name			
	ne foods which are			
	althy to eat			
lica	altily to eat			
_				
	know and name			
	ne foods which are			
unh	nealthy to eat.			
To	know humans need			
to	drink water to stay			
	althy			
	know when and			
	y we need to wash			
our	hands			

		To know exercise						
		keeps our bodies						
		healthy.						
		To name some ways						
		to keep our body fit						
		and healthy.						
		To know how to keep						
		our teeth healthy.						
		_						
		To know sleep is						
		important to keep our						
		mind and body						
		healthy.						
	Pre-School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	To identify and	To identify and name	Distinguish	Identify and	Compare and	Compare and	Compare and	
Materials	name common	common materials	between an	compare the	group	group	group	
	materials that make	that make objects	object and the	suitability of	together	materials	together	
			I	1			1	

	objects (Wood and	(Wood, plastic, metal,	material from	everyday	types of	according to	materials on	
	metal)	fabric)	which it is made	materials,	rocks on the	whether they	the basis of	
				including	basis of their	are solids,	their	
	To begin to	To know some	Identify and	wood,	appearance	liquids or	properties,	
	understand the	properties of common	name a variety	metal,	and simple	gases	including	
	language associated	materials (Hard, soft,	of everyday	plastic,	physical		their	
	with changing	rough, smooth)	materials,	glass, brick,	properties.	Observes	hardness,	
	materials (Squash,		including wood,	rock, paper		that some	solubility,	
	squeeze, twist,	To know that you can	plastic, glass,	and	Children to	materials	transparency,	
	push, rip, cut, roll,	group	metal, water	cardboard	use the	change state	conductivity	
	stretch, curl -	materials/objects	and rock	for	terms	when they	(electrical and	
	Dough Disco link)	according to their		particular	porous,	are heated or	thermal), and	
		properties.	Describe the	uses	permeable	cooled, and	response to	
			simple physical		absorbent,	measure or	magnets	
		To know that water	properties of a	Find out	hard waring,	research the		
		can be a liquid or a	variety of	about how	soft.	temperature	Know that	
		solid.	everyday	the shapes		at which this	some	
			materials	of solid	Children to	happens in	materials will	
		To know you need to		objects	know how	degrees	dissolve in	
		freeze water to make	Compare and	made from	rocks are	Celsius (°C)	liquid to form	
		it a solid.	group together	some	formed and		a solution,	
			a variety of	materials	to identify	Children to	and describe	
		To know you need to	everyday	can be	and group	know water	how to	
		heat ice (solid water)	materials on the	changed by	the three	goes solid	recover a	
			basis of their	squashing,	main types	below 0°C	substance	
_								

up to make it a l	iquid simple phys	ical bending,	of rocks.	and turns to	from a	
again	properties	twisting a	nd Igneous,	steam and	solution	
		stretching	metamorphic	boils at 100		
To know other			and	°C	Use	
materials melt			sedimentary		knowledge of	
				Children to	solids, liquids	
To know that so	me		Describe in	know that	and gases to	
metals are magr	netic-		simple terms	different	decide how	
they are attracted	ed to		how fossils	liquids have	mixtures	
magnets.			are formed	different	might be	
			when things	freezing and	separated,	
To know that so	me		that have	melting	including	
materials float o	r sink.		lived are	points.	through	
			trapped		filtering,	
To know that flo	pating		within rock	Children to	sieving and	
means to stay of	n top		Recognise	be able to	evaporating	
of the water.			that's oils	read a		
			are made	thermometer.	Give reasons,	
To know that sir	nking		from rocks		based on	
means the object	t goes		and organic	Children to	evidence from	
to the bottom o	f the		matter	also know	comparative	
water.				how to use a	and fair tests,	
				data logger	for the	
				to record	particular	
				temperatures	uses of	

				everyday	
			Identify the	materials,	
			part played	including	
			by	metals, wood	
			evaporation	and plastic	
			and	Demonstrate	
			condensation	that	
			in the water	dissolving,	
			cycle and	mixing and	
			associate the	changes of	
			rate of	state are	
			evaporation	reversible	
			with	changes	
			temperature		
				Explain that	
				some changes	
				result in the	
				formation of	
				new	
				materials, and	
				that this kind	
				of change is	
				not usually	
				reversible,	
				including	

							changes associated	
							with burning	
							and the	
							action of acid	
							on	
							bicarbonate	
							of soda	
Seasonal	Pre-School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Change	To observe the	To know and name	Observe	•Observe				
	weather and how it	the four seasons in	changes across	changes				
	changes	the year.	the four	across the				
			seasons.	four				
	To know the names	To know what the		seasons				
	of different types of	weather is like in each	Observe and					
	weather (rainy,	of the four seasons.	describe	•Observe				
	sunny, windy,		weather	and				
	snowy, cold, warm,	To observe and talk	associated with	describe				
	and hot)	about the changes	the seasons and	weather				
		they can see.	how day length	associated				
	To begin to develop		varies	with the				
	an understanding	To recognise and talk		seasons and				
	of change over time	about the signs of	Name and know	how day				
		different seasons	when the four	length				
			seasons occur	varies				

	To know that trees						
	lose their leaves and	Describe	Know when				
	change colour in	changes in	the months				
	autumn.	clothing animals	when the				
		and plants over	day gets				
	To know that trees	the four	shorter and				
	and plants grow	seasons	when they				
	leaves and flowers in		start to get				
	spring.		longer.				
			•Name and				
			know when				
			the four				
			seasons				
			occur				
			•Describe				
			changes in				
			clothing				
			animals and				
			plants over				
			the four				
			seasons				
Pre-School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6

		Explore and	Recognise	Describe the	Describe how
		·	•		
Living		compare the	that living	differences in	living things
things and		differences	things can be	the life cycle	are classified
their		between	grouped in a	of a mammal,	into broad
Habitat		things that	variety of	an amphibian,	groups
		are living,	ways	an insect and	according to
		dead, and	including	a bird	common
		things that	plants		observable
		have never		Describe the	characteristics
		been alive	Explore and	life processes	and based on
			use	of	similarities
		Identify that	classification	reproduction	and
		most living	keys to help	in some	differences,
		things live	group,	plants and	including
		in habitats	identify and	animals	micro-
		to which	name a		organisms,
		they are	variety of		plants and
		suited and	living things		animals
		describe	in their local		
		how	and wider		Give reasons
		different	environment		for classifying
		habitats			plants and
		provide for	Recognise		animals based
		the basic	that		on specific
		needs of	environments		characteristics

different can change	
S. S	
kinds of and that this	
animals and can	
plants, and sometimes	
how they pose dangers	
depend on to living	
each other things	
Identify and	
name a	
variety of	
plants and	
animals in	
their	
habitats,	
including	
micro-	
habitats	
Describe	
how animals	
obtain their	
food from	
plants and	
other	

				animals,				
				using the				
				idea of a				
				simple food				
				chain, and				
				identify and				
				name				
				different				
				sources of				
				food				
	Pre-School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
					Recognise			Recognise
Light					that they			that light
					need light in			appears to
					order to see			travel in
					things and			straight lines
					that dark is			
					the absence			Use the idea
					of light			that light

				travels in
		Notice that		straight lines
		light is		to explain
		reflected		that objects
		from		are seen
		surfaces		because they
		Recognise		give out or
		that light		reflect light in
		from the sun		the eye
		can be		
		dangerous		Explain that
		and that		we see things
		there are		because light
		ways to		travels from
		protect their		light sources
		eyes		to our eyes or
				from light
		Recognise		sources to
		that		objects and
		shadows are		then to our
		formed when		eyes
		the light		
		from a light		Use the idea
		source is		that light
				travels in

					blocked by a			straight lines
					solid object			to explain why
								shadows have
					Find			the same
					patterns in			shape as the
					the way that			objects that
					the size of			cast them
					shadows			
					changes			
	Pre-School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
					Compare		Explain that	
Forces and					how things		unsupported	
Magnets					move on		objects fall	
					different		towards the	
					surfaces		Earth because	
					Notice that		of the force	
					some forces		of gravity	
					need contact		acting	
					between two		between the	
					objects, but		Earth and the	
					magnetic		falling object	
					forces can		Identify the	
					act at a		effects of air	
					distance		resistance,	
							water	

		Observe how	resistance	
		magnets	and friction,	
		attract or	that act	
		repel each	between	
		other and	moving	
		attract some	surfaces	
		materials		
		and not	Recognise	
		others	that some	
			mechanisms,	
		Compare and	including	
		group	levers, pulleys	
		together a	and gears,	
		variety of	allow a	
		everyday	smaller force	
		materials on	to have a	
		the basis of	greater effect	
		whether they		
		are attracted		
		to a magnet,		
		and identify		
		some		
		magnetic		
		materials		

					Describe			
					magnets as			
					having two			
					poles			
					Predict			
					whether two			
					magnets will			
					attract or			
					repel each			
					other,			
					depending			
					on which			
					poles are			
					facing			
	Pre-School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
						Identify how		
Sound						sounds are		
						made,		
						associating		
						some of them		
						with		
						something		
						vibrating		

		Recognise	
		that	
		vibrations	
		from sounds	
		travel	
		through a	
		medium to	
		the ear	
		Find patterns	
		between the	
		pitch of a	
		sound and	
		features of	
		the object	
		that	
		produced it	
		Find patterns	
		between the	
		volume of a	
		sound and	
		the strength	
		of the	
		vibrations	

			that	
			produced it	
			•	
			Recognise	
			that sounds	
			get fainter as	
			the distance	
			from the	
			sound source	
			increases	
Electricity			Identify	Associate the
			common	brightness of
			appliances	a lamp or the
			that run on	volume of a
			electricity	buzzer with
			Construct a	the number
			simple series	and voltage of
			electrical	cells used in
			circuit,	the circuit
			identifying	Compare and
			and naming	give reasons
			its basic	for variations
			parts,	in how
			including	components
			cells, wires,	function,

		bulbs,	including the
		switches and	brightness of
		buzzers	bulbs, the
		Identify	loudness of
		whether or	buzzers and
		not a lamp	the on/off
		will light in a	position of
		simple series	switches
		circuit, based	Used
		on whether	recognised
		or not the	symbols when
		lamp is part	representing a
		of a complete	simple circuit
		loop with a	in a diagram
		battery	
		Recognise	
		that a switch	
		opens and	
		closes a	
		circuit and	
		associate this	
		with whether	
		or not a lamp	
		lights in a	

			-:		
			simple series		
			circuit		
			Recognise		
			some		
			common		
			conductors		
			and		
			insulators,		
			and associate		
			metals with		
			being good		
			conductors		
Earth and				Describe the	
Space				movement of	
				the Earth, and	
				other planets,	
				relative to the	
				Sun in the	
				solar system	
				Describe the	
				movement of	
				the Moon	
				relative to the	
				Earth	

Evolution and linheritance Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies Use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the						
Evolution and Inheritance Evolution and Inheritance Inh					Describe the	
approximately spherical bodies Use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky Evolution and Inheritance Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that					Sun, Earth	
Evolution and Inheritance The substitute of the					and Moon as	
Evolution and Inheritance Evolution and Inherit					approximately	
Evolution and Inheritance Evolution and Inheritance The idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky Evolution and Inheritance The idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky Evolution and Inheritance The idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky Evolution across the sky Evolution and that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that					spherical	
Evolution and Inheritance Provided information about living things that					bodies	
Evolution and Inheritance Protection to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky					Use the idea	
Evolution and Inheritance Evolution and Inheritance					of the Earth's	
Evolution and linheritance Position Pos					rotation to	
Evolution and Inheritance Inheritance Information about living things that					explain day	
Evolution and Inheritance Inhe					and night and	
Evolution and Inheritance Inhe					the apparent	
Evolution and Inheritance Inhe					movement of	
Evolution and Inheritance Inhe					the sun	
and Inheritance In					across the sky	
Inheritance Inher	Evolution					Recognise
changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that	and					that living
time and that fossils provide information about living things that	Inheritance					things have
fossils provide information about living things that						changed over
information about living things that						time and that
about living things that						fossils provide
things that						information
						about living
inhabited the						things that
						inhabited the

			Earth millions
			of years ago
			Recognise
			that living
			things
			produce
			offspring of
			the same kind,
			but normally
			offspring vary
			and are not
			identical to
			their parents
			Identify how
			animals and
			plants are
			adapted to
			suit their
			environment
			in different
			ways and that
			adaption may

				lead to
				evolution
				(Link to RSE
				work in year
				5)