

Park Gate Science Curriculum



Through the science curriculum at Park Gate Primary School we provide the foundations for understanding the world around us and look at the specifics of biology, chemistry and physics. Science has changed our lives and it is our aim to encourage and develop the children's natural curiosity and enthusiasm for science, enabling them to develop their investigative skills and scientific knowledge.

During a child's time at Park Gate, they will have opportunities to broaden and grow as a scientist through investigation and exploration. Throughout each stage of their scientific journey, the children will build upon their existing knowledge and skills as part of a carefully planned progressive curriculum.

Immerse yourself in our science curriculum by taking a journey through some of the exciting and fun experiences and projects at Park Gate Primary School..

Upon visiting Early Years, you will see carefully planned opportunities enabling the children to discover and investigate science freely both indoors and outdoors. By responding to the children's fascination in the world around them and through observing, asking questions and actively engaging in play, teachers begin to develop vocabulary and allow time for pupils to explore.

Across Key Stages 1 and 2, the majority of the science curriculum is taught through our integrated project approach with engaging project hooks and meaningful outcomes creating a purpose for science learning. Year 1 may be found out in the grounds using their observational skills to identify plants and improving their outside garden environment whilst Year 2 might be using simple equipment and collecting and presenting data when hunting for mini-beasts as part of their 'Habitat Explorers' project.

Move across the hall to Year 3 where the children may be investigating magnetism in order to create their own magnetic games while Year 4 could be sharing their knowledge of the human body and digestive system in their own 'Park Gate Operation Ouch' videos. Scientists in Year 5 use research skills to become experts in Space and their unmissable Chemical Chaos science fair which is planned by the children provides the opportunity for visitors to engage in different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions about reversible and irreversible changes in materials. Year 6 might be seen acting out the circulatory system, investigating the effect of exercise on heart rate or using test results from previous investigations to make predictions and independently set up further comparative and fair tests.

At Park Gate we integrate day and residential visits into the science curriculum, providing further opportunities for practical science and to create valuable memories. Good use is also made of the school grounds for welly walks, observing seasonal changes and practical science activities. It is not unusual to find the children out in the grounds around the school looking at plants and how they grow and many children have spent time planting flowers in our flower beds to make Park Gate Primary School look bright and colourful as well as enticing butterflies and other insects to our school grounds.

Our science curriculum is further enhanced by visitors who provide exciting and illuminating talks, sharing their expertise. Dental hygienists, biomedical scientists, bee keepers, geologists and even a wide variety of pets have played a part in our science curriculum!

By the end of the Park Gate science journey we aim to have inspired and nurtured young scientists who confidently ask questions, explore ideas, and make careful observations and comparisons whilst carrying out different types of scientific enquiries and drawing conclusions that help them answer scientific questions about the world in which they live!

If you would like to find out more please read our long term overviews.