Flimby Primary School – Science

Intent

How we have planned our science curriculum

At Flimby Primary School our intention is to ensure all children receive a broad and balanced science curriculum with opportunities to develop, discover, explore and learn. We want them to grow and sustain a love for science and have a deeper understanding of the world we live in. Our science curriculum incorporates the scientific disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics and is sequenced, allowing the children to build on skills and learning as they progress through school. Our curriculum works on a 2-year rolling cycle, to accommodate our mixed aged classes and ensure full coverage is guaranteed by the end of key stage 2. Each unit of work involves experiments and opportunities for children to work practically and be hands on. Each lesson incorporates an enquiry skill focus and a working scientifically focus. We want children to remember these lessons and we believe teaching in this way engages the children, encourages curiosity and questioning and enhances the curriculum alongside building on their scientific knowledge and promoting a thirst for science. Our curriculum also provides purposeful, stimulating experiences for our children, that integrate our local area and facilities and supports science capital. For example, looking at local scientists and inventors, accessing local amenities including Flimby Shore to study rocks or materials and Flimby Woods to study seasonal change, living things and their habitats or plants. We also take our learning out of Flimby and stretch to integrate additional facilities in Cumbria to make learning more personal and unique for our children.

Implementation

How we teach our science curriculum

At Flimby Primary School, children in years 3-6 have two science lessons every week and children in years 1&2 have one. EYFS experience science daily through the 'Understanding of the World'. All children are provided with opportunities to gain the required skills to become a scientist, through enhancements within the continuous provision. These include asking questions, using a variety of equipment, identifying and classifying, performing tests and gathering and recording data to help in answering questions.

Children are encouraged to work scientifically to carry out investigations, make observations, explore, ask and answer questions, plan, predict and conclude. Our style of teaching enables children to ‘know more and remember more’. To support this, the children are asked questions and discussions are had to review prior learning. This may just be from the previous lesson or it may be from a past unit. Unit vocabulary is modelled and encouraged in each lesson to broaden their scientific language. Misconceptions are addressed in the lessons and quality modelling and teaching is provided. Differentiation is facilitated by the teaching staff to ensure every pupil can access the curriculum. We use the links with local secondary schools to enhance the curriculum further, allowing children the opportunity to take part in workshops and visualise their next steps of science. We use our outdoor area where possible to study science outside of the classroom, providing transferrable skills within their learning.

Impact

The difference we aim to make for our children

The science curriculum at Flimby Primary School develops a love, interest and curiosity of the world. Lessons inspire children and we provide as many opportunities as possible to enhance the programme of study. We are positive that children will leave our school with a passion to extend their learning further and with a deeper understanding of the world. Learning is assessed during all lessons to support the planning and teaching of future lessons. At the end of every unit, the children are quizzed on key learning to ensure adequate understanding at an appropriate level for each individual.

The science subject leader measures the impact of the implementation through CTLRs which include pupil voice. The subject leader creates relevant action plans, looking at developing new opportunities and refining current practice. The science lead also facilitates termly cluster meetings for the science leads in the local area to support others with the delivery of science and support with assessment and monitoring.