

Progression of Enquiry Skills from Early Years Foundation Stage to Key Stage One



| EYFS | Key Stage One |
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| Show curiosity about objects, events and people Playing & Exploring Questions why things happen Speaking: 30-50 months | Explore the world around them and raise their own simple questions |
| Engage in open-ended activity Playing & Exploring | Experience different types of science enquiries, including practical activities |
| Take a risk, engage in new experiences and learn by trial and error Playing & Exploring | Begin to recognise different ways in which they might answer scientific questions |
| Find ways to solve problems / find new ways to do things / test their ideas Creating & Thinking Critically | Carry out simple tests |
| Develop ideas of grouping, sequences, cause and effect Creating & Thinking Critically Know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things ELG: The World | Use simple features to compare objects, materials and living things and, with help, decide how to sort and group them (identifying and classifying) |
| Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world The World: 30-50 months | Ask people questions and use simple secondary sources to find answers |
| Closely observes what animals, people and vehicles do The World 8-20 months Use senses to explore the world around them Playing & Exploring | Observe closely using simple equipment With help, observe changes over time |
| Make links and notice patterns in their experience Creating & Thinking Critically | With guidance, they should begin to notice patterns and relationships |
| Choose the resources they need for their chosen activities ELG: Self Confidence & Self Awareness Handle equipment and tools effectively ELG: Moving & Handling | Use simple measurements and equipment (e.g. hand lenses, egg timers) to gather data |
| Create simple representations of events, people and objects Being Imaginative: 40-60+ months | Record simple data |
| Answer how and why questions about their experiences ELG: Understanding Make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes ELG: The World | Use their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions Talk about what they have found out and how they found it out |
| Develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events ELG: Speaking Builds up vocabulary that reflects the breadth of their experience Understanding: 30-50 months | With help, they should record and communicate their findings in a range of ways and begin to use simple scientific language |