Science Progression of skills Year 6

National Curriculum objectives: In this unit, children will be taught to:	
Year 5 and 6 Working Scientifically Use the following practical scientific	Living things and their Habitats
methods, processes and skills:	• LTH1 describe how living things are classified into broad groups according
 WS1 planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, 	to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and
including recognising and controlling variables where necessary	differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals
 WS2 taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with 	 LTH2 give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific
increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate	characteristics.
 WS3 recording data and results of increasing complexity using scientific 	 LTH3 know that broad groupings, such as micro-organisms, plants and
diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line	animals can be subdivided.
graphs	• LTH4 should classify animals into commonly found invertebrates (such as
 WS4 using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative 	insects, spiders, snails, worms) and vertebrates (fish, amphibians, reptiles,
and fair tests	birds and mammals).
 WS5 reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including 	 LTH5 find out about significance of the work of scientists such as Carl
conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in	Linnaeus, a pioneer of classification.
results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations	Animals, including Humans
 WS6 identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or 	• AIH1 identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system,
refute ideas or arguments.	and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood
• WS7 explore and talk about their ideas; asking their own questions about	• AIH2 recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way
scientific phenomena; and analysing functions, relationships and	their bodies function
interactions more systematically.	 AIH3 describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported
 WS8 recognise that scientific ideas change and develop over time. 	within animals, including humans.
 WS9 draw conclusions based on their data and observations, use 	• AIH4 explore questions to understand how the circulatory system enables
evidence to justify their ideas, and use their scientific knowledge and	the body to function.
understanding to explain their findings.	• AIH5 learn how to keep their bodies healthy and how their bodies might
 WS10 Pupils should read, spell and pronounce scientific vocabulary 	be damaged – including how some drugs and other substances can be
correctly.	harmful to the human body.
	 AIH6 explore the work of scientists and scientific research about the
	relationship between diet, exercise, drugs, lifestyle and health.
	Evolution and Inheritance

• El1 recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils
provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of
years ago
• El2 recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but
normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents
• EI3 identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.
• El4 be introduced to the idea that characteristics are passed from parents
to their offspring, i.e. different breeds of dogs, and what happens when,
for example, labradors are crossed with poodles.
 EI5 appreciate that variation in offspring over time can make animals
more or less able to survive in particular environments, for example, by
exploring how giraffes' necks got longer.
• El6 find out about the work of palaeontologists such as Mary Anning and
about how Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace developed their ideas on
evolution.
Light
• 11 recognise that light annears to travel in straight lines
• 12 use the idea that light travels in straight lines to evolain that objects
are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eve
• 13 explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to
our eves or from light sources to objects and then to our eves
• L4 use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows
have the same shape as the objects that cast them.
• L5 work scientifically by: deciding where to place rear-view mirrors on
cars; designing and making a periscope and using the idea that light
appears to travel in straight lines to explain how it works.
 L6 look at a range of phenomena including rainbows, colours on soap
bubbles, objects looking bent in water and coloured filters (they do not
need to explain why these phenomena occur).
Electricity

• E1 associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit
 E2 compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches
 E3 use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.
• E4 construct simple series circuits, to help them to answer questions
about what happens when they try different components, for example,
switches, builds, buzzers and motors.
 E5 learn how to represent a simple circuit in a diagram using recognised
symbols.