



Scientific vocabulary progression

Claire Holt

claire@teachingfromtheheart.co.uk

Plants

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Leaf	Bulb	Function
Flower	Shoot	Absorb
Blossom	Germinate	Nutrients
Petals	Bud	Life cycle
Fruit	Soil	Pollen
Roots	Temperature	Pollination
Seed	Growth	Pollinator
Branch	Flowering	Reproduce
Trunk	Non-flowering	Dispersal
Stem		



Teaching from the Heart

"Putting the 'heart' back into education"

Humans

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Senses	Offspring	Nutrition	Digestive system	Gestation	Circulatory system
Skeleton	Survival	Support	Digestion	Embryo	Blood vessel
Sight	Exercise	Protection	Incisor	Foetus	Artery
Touch	Healthy	Movement	Canine	Childhood	Vein
Taste	Unhealthy	Spine	Molar	Adolescence	Cell
Hearing	Diet	Ribcage	Oesophagus	Puberty	Oxygen
Smell	Hygiene	Pelvis	Stomach	Life expectancy	Nutrients
		Skull	Intestine	Reproduction	Organs
		Muscle	Rectum		Disease
		Contract	Anus		Obesity

Animals

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Fish	Offspring	Vertebrate	Prey	Gestation	Circulatory system
Amphibian	Adult	Invertebrate	Predator	Life expectancy	Blood vessel
Reptile	Survive	Nutrition	Producer		Artery
Mammal	Feeding	Skeleton	Consumer		Vein
Bird	Drinking	Muscle	Decomposer		Cell
Skin	Breathing	Support	Omnivore		Oxygen
Scales	Exercise	Protection	Carnivore		Nutrients
Fur	Hygiene	Movement	Herbivore		Organs
Feathers			Energy		
			Nutrients		

Living things and their habitats

Year 2	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Habitat	Classify	Life cycle	Characteristics
Micro-habitat	Classification	Reproduce	Micro-organism
Food chain	Key	Sexual reproduction	Kingdom (animals, plants, fungi, bacteria, protists)
Environment	Revise: vertebrate, invertebrate, mammal, amphibian, reptile, bird, fish, flowering, non- flowering	Asexual reproduction	Category
Adaptation		Stamen	Phylum
Shelter		Carpel	Class
		Stigma	Order
		Pollen	Family
	Impact	Fertilize	Genus
		Ovary	Species

Seasonal change

Seasonal change

Weather

Seasons

Temperature

Sunrise

Sunset

Earth and space

Year 5 Earth and space

Axis

Tilt

Orbit

Rotate

Rotation

Spherical

Planet

Solar system

Reflect



Teaching from the Heart

(Putting the 'heart' in your preparation)

Materials

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 Rocks	Year 4 States of Matter	Year 5 Materials & their properties
Hard	See-through	Magma	Matter	Insulator
Rough	Transparent	Lava	Solid	Conductor
Smooth	Translucent	Metamorphic	Liquid	Thermal
Stretchy	Opaque	Sedimentary	Gas	Reversible
Stiff	Absorbent	Igneous	Evaporation	Irreversible
Shiny	Suitable	Crust	Evaporate	Dissolve
Dull	Unsuitable	Fossil	Condensation	Filter
Flexible	Flexible	Decay	Temperature	Sieve
Waterproof	Rigid	Grains	Solidify	Solution
Soft		Crystals		Soluble

Light

Year 3	Year 6
Light	Revise from Y3 – source, shadow, reflect, reflective, surface
Dark	Ray
Reflect	Absorb
Reflective	
Non-reflective	
Shadow	
Source	
Revise from Y2 – transparent, translucent, opaque	
Surface	
Distance	

Electricity

Year 4	Year 6
Appliance	Electric current
Circuit	Positive
Electrical/electricity/electric	Negative
Cell	Volts
Wire	Symbol
Buzzer/Motor	Revise: appliance, circuit, cell, wire, buzzer/motor, battery, switch, conductor, insulator
Battery	
Switch	
Conductor	
Insulator	

Forces

Year 3 Forces & Magnets	Year 5 Forces
Force	Air / Water resistance
Attract	Upthrust
Repel	Gravity
Magnetic	Springs
Non-magnetic	Lever
Magnetism	Fulcrum
Pole	Pulley
Friction	Gear
Force meter/Newton meter	Streamlined – Drag
	Mechanism/machine

Sound

Year 4
Sound wave
Vibrate
Vibration
Eardrum
High pitch
Low pitch

Evolution & Inheritance

Year 6
Evolution
Adapt/adaptation
Characteristics
Species
Generation
Identical
Inherit/inheritance
Vary/variation

Year 1

Plants	Animals	Humans	Materials	Seasonal Changes
Leaf	Senses	Fish	Soft	Weather
Flower	Skeleton	Amphibian	Hard	Seasons
Blossom	Sight	Reptile	Rough	Temperature
Petals	Touch	Mammal	Smooth	Sunrise
Fruit	Taste	Bird	Stretchy	Sunset
Roots	Hearing	Skin	Stiff	
Seed	Smell	Scales	Shiny	
Branch		Fur	Dull	
Trunk		Feathers	Flexible	
Stem			Waterproof	

Year 2

Plants	Animals	Humans	Materials	Living Things and Their Habitats
Bulb	Offspring	Survival	See-through	Habitat
Shoot	Adult	Exercise	Transparent	Micro-habitat
Germinate	Survive	Healthy	Translucent	Food chain
Bud	Feeding	Unhealthy	Opaque	Environment
Soil	Drinking	Diet	Absorbent	Adaptation
Temperature	Breathing	Hygeine	Suitable	Shelter
Growth	Exercise		Unsuitable	
Flowering			Flexible	
Non-flowering			Rigid	

Year 3

Plants	Animals	Humans	Rocks	Light	Forces and Magnets
Function	Vertebrate	Nutrition	Magma	Light	Force
Absorb	Invertebrate	Support	Lava	Dark	Attract
Nutrients	Nutrition	Protection	Metamorphic	Reflect	Repel
Life cycle	Skeleton	Movement	Sedimentary	Reflective	Magnetic
Pollen	Muscle	Spine	Igneous	Non-reflective	Non-magnetic
Pollination	Support	Ribcage	Crust	Shadow	Magnetism
Pollinator	Protection	Pelvis	Fossil	Source	Pole
Reproduce	Movement	Skull	Decay	Distance	Friction
Dispersal			Grains	Surface	Newton meter
			Crystals		

Year 4

Electricity	Animals	Humans	Sound	States of Matter	Living Things and Their Habitats
Appliance	Prey	Digestive system	Sound wave	Matter	Classify
Circuit	Predator	Digestion	Vibrate	Solid	Classification
Electricity	Producer	Incisor	Vibration	Liquid	Key
Cell	Consumer	Canine	Eardrum	Gas	Impact
Wire	Decomposer	Molar	High pitch	Evaporation	
Buzzer/Motor	Omnivore	Oesophagus	Low pitch	Evaporate	
Battery	Carnivore	Stomach	Volume	Condensation	
Switch	Herbivore	Intestine	Particle	Temperature	
Conductor	Energy	Rectum		Solidify	
Insulator	Nutrients	Anus			

Year 5

Forces	Animals	Humans	Earth and Space	Materials and Their Properties	Living Things and Their Habitats
Air / Water resistance	Gestation	Gestation	Axis	Insulator	Life cycle
Upthrust	Life expectancy	Embryo	Tilt	Conductor	Reproduce
Gravity		Foetus	Orbit	Thermal	Sexual reproduction
Springs		Childhood	Rotate	Reversible	Asexual reproduction
Lever		Adolescence	Rotation	Irreversible	Stamen
Torque		Puberty	Spherical	Dissolve	Carpel
Pulley		Life expectancy	Planet	Filter	Stigma
Gear		Reproduction	Solar system	Sieve	Pollen
Streamlined			Reflect	Solution	Fertilize
Mechanism				Soluble	Ovary

Year 6

Electricity	Animals	Humans	Light	Evolution and Inheritance	Living Things and Their Habitats
Electric current	Circulatory system	Circulatory system	Ray	Evolution	Characteristics
Positive	Blood vessel	Blood vessel	Absorb	Adaption	Micro-organism
Negative	Artery	Artery		Characteristics	Kingdom
Volts	Vein	Vein		Species	Category
Symbol	Cell	Cell		Generation	Phylum
	Oxygen	Oxygen		Identical	Class
	Nutrients	Nutrients		Inheritance	Order
	Organs	Organs		Variation	Family
		Disease			Genus
		Obesity			Species