

Science: The Wray Common Way!

At Wray Common, we are passionate about developing confident and curious Scientists who have a broad knowledge base to draw from and who are equipped with the investigative skills to find out more. Our principles for Science teaching are to:

1. Nurture Curiosity

We inspire curiosity in our children about the world around them through ensuring that lessons are as practical and engaging as possible, using a range of hands on resources. Effective questioning is modelled throughout the school through our CAPTURE character Asteroid the Asking Alien.



2. Build Scientific Knowledge and Skills

The joy of scientific discovery begins in Reception where learning is centred on **exploring the world around them**. In Years 1 and 2, the children are encouraged to ask questions and develop their observational skills, whilst developing their knowledge of **Plants, Animals, Habitats, Materials and Seasonal Change** which are built upon throughout their time at Wray Common. During Years 3 and 4, the children carry out practical enquiries more independently and record their results in labelled diagrams, tables and bar charts. The units of **Light, Rocks, States of Matter, Sound and Electricity** are introduced. In Years 5 and 6 the children encounter more challenging concepts, such as **Earth and Space, Forces and Evolution**. They are expected to develop their own scientific enquiries, planning how to manipulate and record results in tables and graphs, so they can draw their own considered conclusions using scientific evidence and terminology. To further embed this knowledge, we regularly make cross curriculum links, from using our materials knowledge to make pirate ships in DT, to writing poems about the lifecycle of a sunflower in English.

4. Experience Science in the Real World

We firmly believe that exposing the children to science in the 'real world' will give them an understanding of why science is incredibly useful and potentially inspire their future career choices. Children experience science in the real world through trips, such as Nower Wood, as well as exploring our own vast outdoor space. We also arrange educational visitors to the school, for example a nutritionist in Years 2 and 3, the Space Dome in Year 5 and a heart dissection by a doctor in Year 6. We are always on the look-out for people in the local community who are passionate about sharing their science expertise in the real world with our children.



3. Collaborate



We know that team learning can have fantastic benefits to children's science learning such as developing key critical-thinking, communication, and decision-making skills and at Wray Common, we facilitate effective collaboration through our Science Investigation Roles. Children feel purposeful during their investigations and have the opportunity to practise all of the roles throughout their time at Wray Common, helping them to appreciate the value of each part of the team and encouraging them to step out of their comfort zone.

