

Everyday materials

Through practical experiences, the children become familiar with the names

of a wide range of materials and develop an understanding of properties such as: hard/soft; stretchy/stiff; shiny/dull; rough/smooth; waterproof/not waterproof; absorbent/not absorbent; opaque/transparent. They extend their learning by understanding how some materials are used and which of the properties make them suitable or unsuitable for particular purposes.

Plants

Using our local environment, children explore plants and observe how they grow. By planting flowers and vegetables, the children experience what is needed for germination, growth and survival, as well as the processes of reproduction and growth in plants. They will also become familiar with plant structures such as leaves, flowers, fruit, roots, seeds, stem, etc). During the two years, the children will also be introduced to common flowers, deciduous and evergreen trees in the locality.



Seasonal changes



Through observations and discussions, children investigate and

explore the changes in the weather and how this links to our seasons.

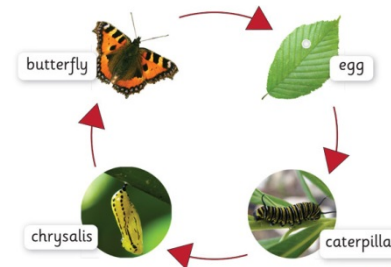
Science at Key Stage 1

At St John's, we want our children to experience and observe the world, to become curious about it, ask questions and want to find out more. Much of our children's learning about science is done through the use of first-hand practical experiences, but they also use appropriate secondary sources, such as books, photographs and videos. Through carrying out scientific investigations, children's understanding of scientific ideas grows as they are encouraged to: answer their own questions; make observations; notice patterns and group and classifying things. The children's scientific language will also grow as they are encouraged to communicate to others their ideas and describe what they have discovered.

Animals, including humans

Children explore and find answers to their

questions about animals in our local habitat. They are introduced to the basic needs of animals and learn about how animals, including humans, grow and change. Children compare and contrast animals and group them according to what they eat. The children use games, songs and rhymes to help them to learn the names of the main human body parts, and learn about the importance of exercise and nutrition for humans.



Living things and their habitats

Children learn about living things and what they need to stay alive and keep healthy. They learn about habitats and microhabitats by identifying and studying a variety of plants and animals within our local environment and observe how the living things depend upon each other for survival by learning about simple food chains. Comparisons are made with less familiar habitats such as the ocean or in a rainforest.

