

Learning in EYFS: Science

The EYFS framework is structured very differently to the national curriculum as it is organised across seven areas of learning rather than subject areas. The aim of this document is to help subject leaders to understand how the skills taught across EYFS feed into national curriculum subjects.

This document demonstrates which early years outcomes are prerequisite skills for science within the national curriculum. The table below outlines the most relevant early years outcomes from 30-50 months to ELG, brought together from different areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage, to match the programme of study for science.

The most relevant early years outcomes for science are taken from the following areas of learning:

- Physical Development
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

ELG – Early learning goal – The end product the children are aiming for by the end of their reception year.

Science			
30-50 Months	Physical Development	Health and Self-Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To observe the effects of physical activity on their bodies.
	Understanding the World	The World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To comment and ask questions about aspects of their familiar world, such as the place where they live or the natural world. • To talk about some of the things they have observed, such as plants, animals, natural and found objects. • To talk about why things happen and how things work. • To develop an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time. • To show care and concern for living things and the environment.
	Expressive Arts and Design	Exploring and Using Media and Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To begin to be interested in and describe the texture of things.
40-60 Months	Physical Development	Health and Self-Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To eat a healthy range of foodstuffs and understand a need for variety in food. • To show some understanding that good practices with regard to exercise, eating, sleeping and hygiene can contribute to good health.
	Understanding the World	The World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To look closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change.
ELG	Physical Development	Health and Self-Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To know the importance for good health of physical exercise, and a healthy diet, and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe.
	Understanding the World	The World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another.

