Reception

Explore the natural world around them,

making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants.



Year 1

Pupils understand that spending time in nature helps us to feel calm and relaxed.

Pupils begin to understand some of the choices they and others make have an impact on the environment.

Pupils begin to understand the world is heating up.



Year 2

Pupils can explain the difference between 'weather' and 'climate'.

Pupils understand the world is heating up because of human activity.

Pupils are familiar with the term 'Climate Change'.

Pupils understand the impacts of the changing climate and environments on animals locally and globally.

Pupils can name some positive actions that would help us stop having a negative impact on the environment.

Pupils understand that nature is valuable. .

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Year 3

Pupils know weather and climate are affected by human activities that contribute to climate change.

Pupils are familiar with the term 'greenhouse gas emissions'.

Pupils know that the term given to the world's climate becoming hotter is the Greenhouse Effect.

Pupils are familiar with the term 'atmosphere'.

Pupils understand that the Earth's atmosphere traps heat from the sun.

Pupils know that Carbon Dioxide contributes to the Greenhouse Effect.

Pupils know that carbon is found in plants (and all living things).

Pupils know that plants use Carbon Dioxide and take it from the air.

Pupils understand that the natural environment needs to be looked after and respected.

Year 4

Pupils investigate the scientific evidence behind climate change and how it is affecting global weather patterns.

Pupils know how the Greenhouse Effect contributes to Global Warming and can explain this using simple models (like a car on a hot day or a greenhouse).

Pupils know the amount of carbon dioxide being emitted has changed over time.

Pupils have a basic understanding of the scientific processes involved when fossil fuels are burnt (including the impact on the climate).

Pupils know some renewable energy sources (and their importance) such as solar, wind, and hydro power and how they can reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Pupils know some types of green technology such as electric cars and energy efficient appliances, and how they can be used in homes and businesses to reduce energy consumption.

Pupils know that the impact of lifestyles on climate change can be measured.

Pupils can identify actions they can take to reduce emissions.

Pupils can identify and name their own feelings about the earth, the natural world and the climate and explain why they feel that way.

Year 5

Pupils understand that varying lifestyles produce varying carbon emissions.

Pupils identify and explain the link between burning fossil fuels and climate change.

Pupils can describe how carbon levels have changed over time including during prehistoric periods, the preindustrial era, the industrial revolution and the modern era.

Pupils understand that 2030 is not an end-of-the-world deadline, but a target to reduce emissions to manage future impacts of climate change.

Pupils can name a range of different climate action strategies: reducing consumption, using renewable energy and protecting or restoring carbon sinks.

Pupils can name key services that the natural environment provides.

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