Science Overview 2026/27 – Oldfield Primary School

Year Group/Term	**Autumn 1**	**Autumn 2**	**Spring 1**	**Spring 2**	**Summer 1**	**Summer 2**
Reception	Habitats	Planting bulbs	Habitats	Space	Floating and sinking; Materials	Minibeasts
Year 1	All about me	Materials	Animals	Weather and Seasons	Plants	Trees and Woodlands
Year 2	Materials Part 1- Properties of Materials	Animals including humans Part 1- What do humans need to survive?	Living things and their habitats	Animals including humans Part 2- Animal groups and their Life Cycles.	Materials Part 2- using materials for a purpose Life Cycles	Plants
Year 3	Human Skeleton	Lights and Shadows	Food	Forces and Magnets	Plants	Rocks and Soils
Year 4	Electricity	Sound	States of Matter	Teeth and Digestive System	Food Chains	Living Things and their Habitats
Year 5	Forces	Earth and Space; Our Solar System	Properties of Materials	Properties of Materials	Living Things and their Habitats	Animals Including Humans
Year 6	Evolution and Inheritance Fossils	Circulatory System Function of the Heart Healthy Lifestyle	Micro-organisms	Electricity Light		Genetics

Science Early Years Overview 2026/27 – Oldfield Primary School

Term	Topic/Unit	Key Knowledge	Key Skills
Autumn 1	Habitats	Describing home environment Learning where to find things in school environment	Ask simple questions about immediate environment. Talk about similarities and differences. Explore objects, materials and resources designed to model scientific processes. Listen and respond to stories about scientific related events. Create drawings and models of their environment. Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and animal. Begin to understand the need to care for our local environment. Explore a collection of every day materials. Describe what they can see, hear and feel when outside. Explore and discuss different forces they can feel.
Autumn 2	Planting bulbs	Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and animal.	
Spring 1	Habitats	Begin to understand the need to care for our local environment.	
Spring 2	Space	Explore and discuss the force of gravity. Features of the different planets.	
Summer 1	Floating and sinking Materials	Explore and talk about different forces that they can feel. Finding out about sea creatures Explore a collection of every day materials. Describe what they can see, hear and feel when outside.	
Summer 2	Minibeasts	Explore the natural world around them. Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside. Children to go on a minibeast hunt to search for minibeasts.	

Science Year 1 Overview 2026/27 – Oldfield Primary School

Term	Topic/Unit	Key Knowledge	Key Skills
Autumn 1	All about me	Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.	Asking simple questions and recognising that they can be answered in different ways. Observe closely, using simple equipment. Performing simple tests. Identifying and classifying. Using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions. Gathering and recording data to help in answering questions.
Autumn 2	Materials	Distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made. Identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock. Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials. Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties.	
Spring 1	Animals	Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds	

		and mammals, including pets).	
Spring 2	Weather and Seasons	Observe changes across the four seasons. Describe weather associated with the four seasons. Observe the variety in day lengths.	
Summer 1	Plants	Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. Identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.	
Summer 2	Trees and Woodlands	Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees. Identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees.	

Science Year 2 Overview 2026/27 – Oldfield Primary School

Term	Topic/Unit	Key Knowledge	Key Skills
Autumn 1	Materials	Find out how the shapes of some solid objects can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.	Asking simple questions and recognising that they can be answered in different ways. Observe closely, using simple equipment. Performing simple tests. Identifying and classifying. Using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions. Gathering and recording data to help in answering questions.
Autumn 2	Animals including humans	Understand what animals including humans need to survive. Describe the importance for humans of exercise, hygiene and diet.	
Spring 1	Living things and their habitats	Make comparisons between things that are living, dead and never been alive. Describe how habitats provide the basic needs for different types of animals. Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats. Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals.	
Spring 2	Animals including humans	Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring that grow into adults. Identify names of animals' young (eg dog and puppy; cat and kitten).	
Summer 1	Materials	Identify the suitability of everyday materials (including plastic, metal, paper, wood, brick and rock) for particular uses.	

Summer 2	Plants	Observe how seeds and bulbs grow into plants. Describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow.	

Science Year 3 Overview 2026/27 – Oldfield Primary School

Term	Topic/Unit	Key Knowledge	Key Skills
Autumn 1	Human Skeleton	Identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement.	Asking relevant questions and using different types of scientific enquiries to answer them. Setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests. Making systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, taking accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers. Gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions. Recording findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables. Reporting on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays or presentations of results and conclusions.
Autumn 2	Light and Shadows	Recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light. Notice that light is reflected from surfaces. Recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes. Recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object. Find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.	
Spring 1	Food	Identify that animals, including humans, need the right types and amount of nutrition.	
Spring 2	Forces and magnets	Compare how things move on different surfaces. Notice that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance. Observe how magnets attract or repel each other	

		and attract some materials and not others. Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet, and identify some magnetic materials. Describe magnets as having two poles and predict whether two magnets will attract or repel each other.	Using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions. Identifying differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes. Using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.
Summer 1	Plants	Identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants. Explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant. Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants. Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.	
Summer 2	Rocks and Soil	Compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock. Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter.	

Science Year 4 Overview 2026/27 – Oldfield Primary School

Term	Topic/Unit	Key Knowledge	Key Skills
Autumn 1	Electricity	Identify common appliances that run on electricity. Construct a simple circuit and name the main component. Recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit. Recognise some common conductors and insulators of electricity.	Asking relevant questions and using different types of scientific enquiries to answer them. Setting up simple practical enquiries, comparative and fair tests. Making systematic and careful observations and, where appropriate, taking accurate measurements using standard units, using a range of equipment, including thermometers and data loggers. Gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions. Recording findings using simple scientific language, drawings, labelled diagrams, keys, bar charts, and tables. Reporting on findings from enquiries, including oral and written explanations, displays
Autumn 2	Sound	Identify how sounds are made. Recognise that vibrations travel through a medium to the ear. Find patterns between the pitch and volume of the sound and the vibration that made it. Recognise that sounds become fainter as the distance from the sound source grows.	
Spring 1	States of matter	Compare and group materials, based on whether they are a solid, liquid or gas.	
Spring 2	Teeth and digestive system	Identify the different types of human teeth and their basic functions. Describe the functions of basic parts of the digestive system.	

Summer 1	Food chains	Construct and interpret a variety of food chains. Identify producers, prey and predators in a food chain.	or presentations of results and conclusions. Using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions. Identifying differences, similarities or changes related to simple scientific ideas and processes. Using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.
Summer 2	Living things and their habitats	Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. Explore and use classification keys. Recognise how changes in an environment can pose dangers to living things.	

Science Year 5 Overview 2026/27 – Oldfield Primary School

Term	Topic/Unit	Key Knowledge	Key Skills
Autumn 1	Forces	Explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity. Identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction. Recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.	Planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary. Taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate. Recording data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs. Using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests. Reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations.
Autumn 2	Earth and Space	Describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system. Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth. Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies. Use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night.	
Spring	Properties of materials	Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets.	

		Know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution. Use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating. Give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic. Demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes. Explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials.	Identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.
Summer 1	Living things and their habitats	Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird. Classify non-vertebrate animals with a key. Design a key. Identify and construct food chains.	
Summer 2	Animals including humans	Describe the changes as humans develop to old age. Describe the life process of reproduction in some animals.	

Science Year 6 Overview 2026/27 – Oldfield Primary School

Term	Topic/Unit	Key Knowledge	Key Skills
Autumn 1	Evolution and Inheritance	Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary. Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.	Planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary. Taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate. Recording data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs. Using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests. Reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations.
Autumn 2	Circulatory System	Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. Recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function. Describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans.	
Spring 1	Micro-organisms	To name different types of micro-organisms. To recognise why correct food storage is important.	

		To observe changes in foods caused by micro-organisms. To compare micro-organisms with animals including humans.	Identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.
Spring 2	Electricity and Light	Recognise that light appears to travel in straight lines. Explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye. Explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes. Associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used in the circuit. Compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches. Use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.	
Summer 1			
Summer 2	Genetics	To identify common ancestors of humans and other mammas. To make comparisons between humans and their ancestors.	